

'Hebron is being lost'—Qawasmi

Continued from page 1

take a strong stand in defence of humanity and education."

On Wednesday, Mr. Qawasmi met Prime Minister Mudar Badran, who expressed the Jordanian government's concern regarding the recent events, and said that the government would raise the issue of Hebron on Arab and international levels.

On Tuesday, the mayor was in contact with Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat, who asked the mayor to join him in Tunis in the next day or two to discuss the matter there.

On another practical level, Hebronites residing in Amman met on Tuesday to discuss the situation, and decided to call a general meeting to discuss the occupied territories, and the Hebron situation in general. Jordanian and Palestinian political figures would attend.

On the recent decision to put 500 settlers in the heart of Hebron, Mr. Qawasmi said it was neither new, nor a surprise. In 1967, the Israeli occupation authorities appropriated the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron, and it was then clear that a settlement decision had been taken. But it was im-

permented step by step. The next step was the establishment of the Kiryat Arba settlement in 1968. The settlement which is actually within the Hebron Municipality boundaries.

The Israelis also expelled the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Middle East (UNRWA) from the Beit Hadassa building. This was a Jewish-owned building, used until 1929 as a clinic, and was also known by its original Turkish name of "Dabbaya". It was left almost unused until 1979, but later its single inhabitant was joined by 12 Jewish families.

On 8 February 1980, the Israeli cabinet announced a decision giving Jews the privilege of settling in the city of Hebron. In May 1980, they appropriated another building, this one Arab-owned, where 12 families were housed — creating another settlement in the centre of the city of Hebron.

In 1981 the Israelis appropriated a building housing the government school of Usama Ibn Al-Munqidh, settled Jews in it and dispersed its 900 students in other schools. In 1981, they started a survey of the centre of Hebron, and ordered local bus companies to move their station outside the city in order to build another settlement in the centre. They also demolished several warehouses

and public facilities belonging to the vegetable market, and built a synagogue on the site.

"I believe today the Israelis are implementing plans for new buildings at the bus stop, vegetable market or other places within the city limits," Mr. Qawasmi said.

When the 1980 cabinet settlement decision was taken, Mr. Qawasmi met with then Israeli Minister of Defence Ezra Weizman. When Weizman told him he was for peace, "I asked if he knew what this meant, that it meant the Judaization of the city, that they were attempting to Judaize Jerusalem and Hebron. I demanded that the Israeli government stop this policy, in order to leave the door open for peace between Arabs and Jews," he said. But Weizman replied: "Settlement in Hebron is more important than peace."

"When I sent messages to the US requesting that President Carter put a stop to the settlements, and he openly objected to the policy, Begin replied by increasing them," Mr. Qawasmi said.

"For my objections to the settlements, I was expelled from Hebron in 1980. For its objection to the settlements, the Hebron Municipal Council was dissolved in 1983." Today, continued Mr. Qawasmi, for the same reasons, the city is placed under curfew, and settlers were able to perpetrate



Fahd Al-Qawasmi

an assault on the Islamic University campus. "The authorities declared that the assault was unknown."

But "the latest decision of the Israeli cabinet allowing settlers to carry arms and use them as a means of defence, has contributed greatly to this. The settlers in Hebron wouldn't have dared use their machine guns and grenades to kill the students had they not been sure that the authorities were on their side. These acts were even suggested by them by the military authorities," charged the mayor.

Egypt makes representations to Israel over Hebron and asks US intervention

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt made representations to Israel Wednesday over an attack on the Islamic University in the occupied West Bank town of Hebron and sent an urgent message to the United States requesting its intervention to help prevent a recurrence.

The twin Egyptian moves were announced by a foreign ministry spokesman one day after four masked gunmen sprayed the campus of the Hebron university with gunfire, killing three students and wounding 33 other Arabs. West Bank Palestinians blamed Jewish settlers for the shooting.

The ministry spokesman, Raouf Ghaneim, told reporters foreign minister Kamel Hassan Ali has sent an urgent message to US Secretary of State George Shultz saying Egypt is deeply disturbed by the turn of events at Hebron and asking the United States to exercise its responsibilities as a full partner in the (Middle East) peace process.

The reference to American partnership and responsibility, noted in the 1978 Camp David peace framework agreements, was a diplomatic way of saying Egypt is seeking Washington's intervention with Israel to prevent anti-

The spokesman said Mansour informed the Israeli official of Egypt's position on the Hebron developments and the necessity of halting all Israeli repressive actions there.

This appeared to be a reference to the curfew clamped on Hebron Tuesday and Israeli troop reinforcements arriving there in the wake of the attack.

A written statement issued by spokesman Ghaneim denounced the Hebron attack as a heinous act which is further evidence of the deterioration of the day-to-day conditions under which the Palestinians live in the West Bank.

An estimated 1.3m. Palestinians reside in the West Bank and Gaza district, conquered by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war.

Egypt strongly condemns this criminal act and maintains that the Israeli government bears the main responsibility for the security and safety of Palestinians in the occupied territories, the statement said.

The Israeli government is responsible for protecting the Palestinians against any dangers that threaten them, it added.

The statement demanded immediate measures to prevent a repetition of the Hebron attack and to arrest and try the culprits.

The foreign ministry seized the occasion to take a new swipe at Israeli policy in the West Bank and Gaza, notably continued construction of settlements, as an impediment to peace.

Israeli actions in the West Bank and Gaza, including the policy of settlement-building, the dismissal of mayors and other Palestinian officials and acts of suppression against the Arab population, increase tension in the region and create a climate conducive to the escalation of violence and conflict, the statement said.

These actions also create more obstacles in the way of a comprehensive and just peace, it added.

In a recent policy shift, Egypt has made the termination of anti-Palestinian actions in the West Bank and Gaza and the creation of a new atmosphere of confidence a condition for the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel.

The ambassador, Sa'd Murtada, was recalled last September in anger at the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian refugees by Lebanese right-wing militia at two Israeli-controlled camps.

bassador to his post would hinge on agreement on a timetable for withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon — something which the 17 May Israeli-Lebanese accord stipulated.

Students protest against killings W. Bank strife

By Star Staff Writer

SEVERAL STUDENTS of Bir Zeit University were hurt Wednesday during a demonstration held in protest against the bloody incidents in Hebron and Nablus on Tuesday. Israeli troops were rushed to the scene and tear gas bombs and gunfire were used to disperse the students.

A number of them took refuge in the university buildings and were surrounded by Israeli troops until late Wednesday evening. Negotiations were taking place between the president of the university and army officers to provide a bus to transport the students to their homes.

"Let us send them the bus now and later on we will pick them up from their homes and arrest them," an army officer commended.

Meanwhile, the curfew was lifted for one hour Wednesday in Hebron to allow residents to obtain food supplies. But Jewish settlers continued their unwarranted attacks on Arab inhabitants of the Hebron area. An Arab widow's house was set on fire by settlers of the Kiryat Arba settlement. The number of Arabs arrested in the Hebron area was not known.

In another development, the Associated Press reported that Arab shopkeepers in East Jerusalem closed their businesses in protest of the shooting rampage in Hebron. Arab workers refused from going to work inside Israel and a general strike went into effect in Nablus, Ramallah, El Bireh, Jenin, Bethlehem and other areas.

Although Prime Minister Menachem Begin called the attack a "despicable crime" and ordered security forces to do their utmost to apprehend the attackers, the Israeli Mapam Party issued an unofficial statement strongly attacking the government and regretting the disarmament of Jewish settlers. The statement accused the government of supporting and encouraging settlers to continue with their provocations and aggression against the local residents, and requested an investigation by parliament in the recent Hebron incidents.

Knesset member Yael Sartd from the Labor Party requested the committee of foreign affairs and security in the Knesset to convene to discuss Hebron developments, and requested to have the defence minister and the chief of staff of the Israeli army to attend a special session of the committee to be held early next week in order to deal them officially to collect the weapons they had distributed among settlers.

Leader of the "Kakh" militant group, Mr. Kahane said that his movement had nothing to do with the Hebron event, but "we do not condemn the killing of Arabs, and requested the government to expel 200,000 Arabs from the occupied territories."

The Jerusalem Star

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حرسا لم سار اسوعيم سائلا فهد بن البركة الأردنية للصحافة والنشر الدستور

McFarlane peace mission runs into early obstacles

AMMAN — US special Middle East envoy Robert McFarlane, may postpone his expected visit to Damascus, which was supposed to take place during the weekend, according to informed Israeli sources quoted by Israeli military radio on Wednesday.

The radio, monitored here, quoted the sources as saying that Mr. McFarlane might have to return to Beirut for further discussions with Lebanese officials in the aftermath of his meeting on Thursday with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

The American envoy is expected to discuss with the Lebanese officials some new proposals that Israel has made on the current situation in Lebanon.

The sources were quoted as saying that Israel might have asked Mr. McFarlane to present Lebanon with a draft for troop withdrawal from Lebanon in which the Lebanese government would be required to formally ask Syria to withdraw from its territory.

Mr. McFarlane will return to Israel for further meetings and will head for the Syrian capital from there, some time next week, the sources were quoted as saying.

Israel on Wednesday rejected the Lebanese demand that Israel publish a timetable for its withdrawal from Lebanon, suggesting instead that the two governments hold top-level talks.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens told Mr. McFarlane he would not agree to a timetable, but was interested in co-ordinating Israeli moves with Lebanon at every possible level.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir also refused, in talks with Mr. McFarlane, to put Israel's intentions in writing. An Israeli official said Mr. Shamir offered a meeting with Lebanese leaders to allow their fears that Israel's plans for a partial withdrawal are a cover for remaining in permanent control of southern Lebanon.

Israeli Army Radio, monitored here, gave this account of the conversation between Mr. Shamir and Mr. McFarlane.

Preparing for winter

Mr. Shamir retorted that Israel had already declared its stand openly: it will not pull out of Lebanon until after the Syrians and Palestinians do so, and "we do not allow a foreign soldier to remain on Lebanese soil. I wish you tell the president of Lebanon that Israel does not want to stay in Lebanon, but still it will not pull out before Syria and Palestinians."

"We are totally convinced that the Syrians have no intention of pulling out of Lebanon in the



Special US Middle East envoy Robert McFarlane (left) meets Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in occupied Jerusalem on Wednesday. Mr. Shamir in the meeting rejected a Lebanese proposal that Israel put its withdrawal timetable in writing (AP wirephoto)

near future, hence we are preparing our army to stay for another winter there."

Why doesn't Lebanon ask Syria officially to pull out, asked Shamir, and why doesn't the government of Lebanon ratify the agreement concluded with Israel?

The American delegate replied on behalf of the government of Lebanon by saying that Lebanon is committed to the agreement but this is not the proper time to ratify it.

Shamir, according to the radio, replied ironically: "Well then, we shall stay in Lebanon, tell them that."

In occupied Jerusalem a government official, briefing reporters on condition he not be identified, said Lebanon was afraid that once Israel had withdrawn to new positions along the Awali River in southern Lebanon, the impression would

be created that the country had been partitioned into Israeli, Syrian and Lebanese spheres of control.

There was no point in a written statement, he said, since Israel had already signed a US-sponsored agreement with Lebanon guaranteeing the withdrawal of all its invasion forces.

Syrian stubbornness

The military radio also quoted Defence Minister Arens, in his conversation with Mr. McFarlane, as saying, "You have to use your endeavours with the government of Lebanon to ratify the agreement, because the current attitude will encourage Syrians to be stubborn and gives them hope that the agreement will be abrogated by the Lebanese so long as it has not been ratified."

Amman meeting denounces Hebron attack

AMMAN (Star) — More than 250 people attended a general meeting held at the Professional Associations Complex on Wednesday to denounce last week's Israeli attack on students of the Islamic University in Hebron.

Speakers at the meeting included Save Jerusalem Committee President Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al-Sheh, Agricultural Association President Suheilman Arabiyat and PLO representative, Mr. Abdul Rahman Abu Jbara.

They praised the struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied lands and called for the establishment of national and popular committees to support Arabs under Israeli rule. Speakers also affirmed their support of the PLO under Mr. Yasser Arafat's leadership.

Massacre is part of Israel's Judaization plan: Tamimi

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The barbaric crimes of desecrating holy places and land, and aggression on the people of Palestine, which cannot be compared to anything occurring previously throughout history, are part of a studied plan organized by the Israeli authorities and the United States, Sheikh Rajab Al-Tamimi charged on Tuesday.

The Hebronite Muslim sheikh and former dean of the Islamic University of Hebron was expelled by the Israeli authorities on 3 May 1980. The official reason for his expulsion from his home town was his resistance to Israeli attempts to "Judaize" Hebron and settle Jewish families in it.

Sheikh Rajab described the recent massacre of students at the Islamic University as one of the worst actions meant to terrorize and uproot the people. This was followed by assaults on peaceful residents of Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, Dheishah Camp and students at Birzeit University. It was "as if these crimes in other West Bank towns were a completion of the barbaric acts in Hebron," Sheikh Rajab said.

He said that Israeli forces have appropriated the main shop in Hebron and placed a military force there, also taking over the central vegetable market and fencing it with barbed wire in preparation for building a Jewish quarter there. They forcibly evicted residents from their homes and



Rajab Al-Tamimi

dispersed them in order to implement this plan, he said.

Massacres and maltreatment of Palestinians, through the imposition of curfews, arrests and arbitrary punishment, are part of a Zionist plan which aims at Judaizing Hebron and the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967, Sheikh Rajab said.

The Islamic character of Hebron: see page 2

NAAA plans to derail Israeli lobby in 1984

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The 400 missing pages from the Steven Breyer file, a Pentagon official who is accused of spying for Israel, have been found. President of the National Association of Arab Americans Bob Joseph told The Star on Tuesday.

US Justice Department responded to a suit filed by the NAAA, in which they demanded the release of the investigation records, by informing the association's attorney that the missing pages have been found and that NAAA will be supplied with a list of all the different documents and what they pertain to. An additional list will be given to the association that identify the contents of another 400 pages that the Federal Bureau of Investigation possessed.

During their visit to Jordan, Mr. Joseph and Mr. David Saad, NAAA executive director, met the Majesty King Hussein and presented to him a petition in support of his stand regarding the Middle East issue. They also met with the Minister of Information and other Jordanian officials.

Mr. Saad said that NAAA is fighting another congressional battle, which concerns the production of the Israeli-made "Lavi" fighter plane. Israel is asking the US to furnish \$6 billion to finance the plane.

"The project will take vitally needed jobs away from American tax payers and will create competition for US manufacturers," Mr. Saad said. "Israel would then be selling to countries normally buying from the United States."

The two officials declared that NAAA plans to use the 1984 presidential campaign as "a vehicle" that will bring the truth to the American people. "We want to ask the American people: Who comes first? Israel or the United States," Mr. Saad said. "Our people have to understand that Israel, which has become our 51 state, is treated better than all the 50 states combined."

NAAA will also select candidates who are fair and overhanded in the Middle East arena, and support their candidacy. Others, who support Israel and Zionism, "will be targeted for defeat." Funds will be raised from political contributions through members to help defeat these candidates.

On the US General Accounting Office report on aid to Israel, which was published in its un-



David Saad

sored version recently in the United States, NAAA officials did not think it was widely distributed. It is a sizable book, and "people don't read that much." To reach the public, it must go through the electronic media and touch on subjects that matter to the public.

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All of Hebron is trust from Mohammad, sheikh says

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

SHEIKH RAJAB AL-TAMIMI, the exiled religious leader of the occupied town of Hebron, says no one, Jew or Arab, has property rights in the city, which is administered as an Islamic trust or "waqf".

In an interview with The Star, Sheikh Rajab described Hebron's Islamic character and gave the background of the Islamic University, site of the killing of three students by Israeli extremists.

The idea for the university came from thinkers and educators in the city, Sheikh Rajab said. It was established in 1972, beginning classes in the building of the University Graduates' League.

The Municipality of Hebron then bought land and began constructing the various buildings on the campus, he said. The university now has an Islamic law (shari'a) college and a school of arts.

It is run by a board of directors, and funded by contributions, Sheikh Rajab said. It was its dean for two years, but had to resign due to the accumulation of other work.

The Ibrahim Mosque, he continued, was built at the time of the Islamic conquests 14 centuries ago, near the cave where the "prophets" — Abraham and his family — are believed to be buried. The cave is completely sealed.

Continued on page 3

Holland and Palestine meet across a schoolyard wall

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — As a group of 30 young people from Holland are building school walls at the Hebron Refugee Camp, they are tearing down another sort of wall — the walls of misunderstanding between Dutch and Palestinian people.

The 16 young men and 14 women came to Jordan through a five-week UNRWA (UN Relief and Works Agency) volunteer programme run in co-ordination with the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), to work with Palestinian refugees in Jordan. The programme is the first organized one to take place after a small experimental one was tried out last year by Mr. Wim Mes, its only connection with UNRWA — no governments are involved.

Each of the workers has paid for his or her own air ticket to Jordan, which costs around JD 120 — equal to a month's wages for them. The volunteers told The Star that they paid the fees willingly because their aim is to help the Palestinian cause in any way they can.

Rene Bullinga, one of the volunteers, said that the Dutch public in general are becoming keen on finding out about the other side of the situation.

"The Dutch public used to side with Israel in whatever it did because they believed the Zionist lobby of Palestine," he said. "But things have been changing because the people are now more involved with the Palestinian problem and are now more critical than they were before."

Jolke Oppewal said he had witnessed such a change taking place in his parents. "My parents and I used to actually quarrel when we discussed the Palestinian problem," he said, "but shortly before I came to Jordan, I felt that they have changed their ideas when they realized that there is another side to the matter — the Palestinian side."

Realizing the truth

Ed van Sligt added that quite a number of the Dutch who have gone to Palestine and the Middle East as pro-Israelis returned home as pro-Palestinians, after realizing the truth of the situation there.

Ed has been interested in the problem for around 10 years now. "I've been into the North Ireland peace projects and I've noticed many similarities between the problems of that country and Palestine — and the hopelessness," he said.

Rene became interested in the problem two years ago. He plans to write a play about the conflict, basing it on the experience he will gain by mingling with the Palestinian people.

Carla van Beec had heard about the problem and wanted to see the situation herself. Eric Vos had similar feelings, and after the shock of hearing about the Sabra and Shaila massacre, he became interested in the idea of mixing with people. "I hope our work gives more support to Palestine," he said.

"It is important that the real problem gets known," said Rene. "I feel that what is needed is actual work, not demonstrations."

The team is now rebuilding Al-Nuzha school walls, repairing the school's foundations and putting in better drainage. When that job is finished, they will go into the centre of the camp to establish the beginnings of the Youth Activity Centre's sports hall. "I really don't care about building the wall as much as I care about the contact

we are getting with the people," added Rene.

The team seems to gather a big audience as they work. Jolke said the people, mainly children, gather around them to stare and whisper. Some have already volunteered to help the team with the work.

Curious children

"Naturally, with nothing else to do, the curious children gather round us. But the crowd makes our work difficult," said Els Dams. "They also keep trying to take the tools away from me and the other girls, saying that girls shouldn't do heavy labour."

The team will work for three weeks, and then each volunteer will be left to make his or her own plans for the last two weeks of their stay. "Most of us will go to the West Bank, others to Egypt or Syria and some will stay in Jordan," said Els.

Although the team has arrived only this week, some volunteers have already had some experience with the people. As Rene was walking downtown, he met a young man who invited him to his family home in Marka Camp.

'Only a dream'

"The family came to Jordan from Hebron in 1984," Rene said. "We discussed the Palestinian situation and the PLO. When I asked them about the possibility of their returning one day to their homeland, they told me it was only a dream."

"I was surprised to see the picture of Arafat hanging on the walls. The family told me that he is considered to be their representative and government. I noticed that everyone talked about Hebron as 'my village', even though most of them have never seen it."

"I was told that they will always consider it as their village because it is in their blood."

He was quiet for a moment, then went on to say, "As we were leaving, walking through the alleys of the camp, we were followed by around 30 kids who threw stones at us. We were told that the reason for that was that they thought we were Jews. This meant so much more to me than any book I've ever read about the Palestinians."

Numbering plan ready to go, says department director

By Klender Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Plans for the long-awaited numbering of all houses in Jordan are complete and the system is now being implemented in Amman and Irbid, says Khasrouf Al-Mudabber, Director of the Department of Numbering Cities and Towns.

"My department has already completed the numbering plans, which were handed over to Amman Municipality in 1981 for implementation," Mr. Mudabber told The Star in an interview. "Numbering of all Jordanian cities and towns is supposed to follow according to that." He said his department's job was only "to plan and organize," and that any delay in carrying out the project — that is in putting up number plaques and getting the system into general use — is the responsibility of the municipality.

"The system works on the basis of division of the country into regions, which are then divided into subdivisions, which are divided into districts, etc. The smallest division is a parcel, and the next smallest is a block. The parcel (which may or may not contain more than one family dwelling) is represented by two digits, so that the maximum number of parcels in a block is 99."

Amman, for this purpose, has been divided into nine sectors — namely, (1) the city area, (2) Basman, (3) Al-Ghazal, (4) Al-Nasr, (5) Al-Yarmouk, (6) Ras Al-Ain, (7) Zahran, (8) Badr,



Khasrouf Al-Mudabber

and (9) Al-Abdali. Pamphlets explaining the system are to be circulated to the general public along with a special media campaign when the time is right. The process is "under smooth implementation in Amman in accordance with a plan, Mr. Mudabber said. Those living in Jabal Amman, for example, have already had their houses numbered.

New numbering for streets and houses could, if so desired, unify codes for streets, addresses, telephone numbers, licences, postal codes and bank accounts, he said. It will, of course, help the Department of Statistics and nearly every government department and agency with wide-ranging implications for economic planning, city planning, security, tourism and communications.

All numbers are in Arabic numerals (those used in the West). "This will

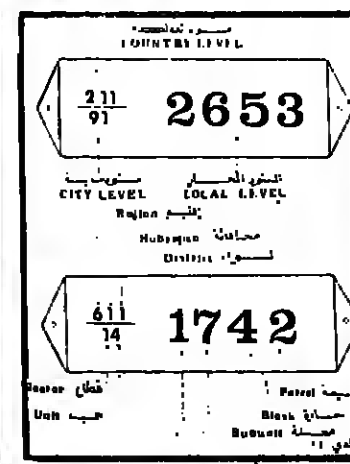


Diagram explaining the numbering system

help Jordan to integrate with the international flow of mail," he said.

The department has drawn up very detailed maps, which were originally designed to meet the requirements of Jordan and in the meantime, to be applicable to other Arab countries.

"We divide the individual area into sectors, units and blocks in accordance with the organization charts prepared by the Ministry of Municipal, Rural and Environmental Affairs, as well as with the requirements of the Land and Survey Department."

Amman Municipality has expressed willingness to increase its numbering teams as far as possible, Mr. Mudabber said, "and I therefore hope that the original four-year plan to be shortened into one year, it will go well."



Driver Khaled Abu Dab'at with the enormous of the unwise snake that attacked him

Driver survives surprise attack by poisonous snake in Amman

AMMAN (Star) — Fast thinking and action saved the life of a taxi driver Sunday when he was attacked by a one-and-a-half-metre-long venomous snake in one of Amman's suburbs.

The driver, Khaled Muhammad Abu Dab'at, was about to start up his mini-bus in the morning when the snake slithered out from under the bus and coiled around his leg. "I didn't have time to think. I threw myself on the ground and rolled until she loosened herself away from me."

The snake "stood up" and spat poison at him, but missed. Instead of running away, Abu Dab'at hit the snake on its head with the heel of his palm. "She

didn't die but the punch was effective," he said. "It gave me the chance to direct another blow with my fist, which killed it this time."

Abu Dab'at said that he believed the snake got into the spare tire mount of the bus when it was parked near the amphitheatre in downtown Amman. "I had my tape recorder on and it seems music and warmth attracted her," he said. It was not until next morning and in front of the San Rock hotel that the accident occurred.

Abu Dab'at suffered some minor bruises in his right hand. "If it wasn't for my old karate lessons I would have been a dead man by now," he said.

Arab image in the United States is still tarnished, professor says

By Kathy Kakish
Special to the Star

AMMAN — American public opinion of His Majesty King Hussein, and of Jordan's position in the Middle East political situation, has greatly improved recently, according to a visiting American expert on Middle East affairs.

Prof. William Griffith, who is Ford Professor of Political Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), told The Star in an interview that while King Hussein's image in the US had always been good, it became even better his meetings in the past year with Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat.

But the end of the attempt to agree on joint political action, and the split among factions of the PLO, had a negative effect. Americans still view the PLO unfavourably, he said.

Dr. Griffith said there were several reasons for negative feelings among Americans towards the Arab countries. One of the most important is the presence of many educated and well-organized Jews who form a powerful lobby for Israel. While Arab-Americans are also beginning to influence the populace and Congress, their achievements cannot compare with those of the Israeli lobby.

Arabs are also blamed for high oil prices and their effect on the American living standard — and this feeling continued during the late 1970s, even though it was Iran and Venezuela who were responsible for higher prices at that time. America's difficulty with Iran, in general, affects American-Arab relations as well.

Americans also perceive Arabs as feeble allies, with a tendency to favour the Soviet Union — while, Dr. Griffith said, Israel is believed in the US to be staunchly anti-Soviet.

In a lecture last Thursday at the American Centre on "Current Developments in the Middle East," Dr. Griffith said that while the Lebanese war ended in Israeli military victory, the political consequences of the war were quite different — a defeat for all countries except partially for Syria.

Israel lost politically because although the PLO was removed from Beirut, its influence and power in the West Bank has not been broken.

Israel's weakened position at home created a far greater split than had ever been known in its history, and Prof. Griffith believed that another Israeli attack or "war of choice" was quite unlikely for future domestic policies.

Politically, he said, Syria has partially succeeded in its objectives of retaining some gains — the acquisition of political control over the Bekaa Valley and the northern parts of Lebanon, which are the same areas that were made part of Lebanon by France in 1918. Syria had always rejected this acquisition.

Concerning the PLO, Prof. Griffith said that there will not be a total split but at the same time, there will be no reunification. What there will be, he said, is something in between. Although Chairman Arafat desired the organization's unity for the sake of future chances for peace, he ended up with neither that nor any negotiations.

Prof. Griffith also discussed the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Iranian revolu-

tion and answered questions from the audience.

For the PLO to prevent its present situation deteriorating, he said that it should try to make some kind of initiative that will have an impact in the US. He said that nothing else would help the PLO.

Dr. Griffith said that what has recently happened in Hebron was a continuation of events in 1929. Violence would yet continue and intensify. Although what he had said showed little concern for justice, he was telling historical facts, "and history shows no concern for it (justice)," he said.

"As long as the Arabs can't win — and Russia will not win a war for them, nor will America — Israel will, of its own will, never return to the 1967 boundaries. Only the US can make it," he said.

Prof. Griffith gave another lecture at the World Affairs Council last Wednesday on "Soviet-American Relations in the Middle East."

Among other things, Prof. Griffith talked about the losses and gains that the US and the Soviet Union have encountered in the Middle East. He said that whether or not the two countries wanted it, they have been manipulated by the Middle East rather than manipulating it. But he placed great emphasis on the "micro-electronics revolution," saying that because of it the US and Japan would soon be the two major world powers, eclipsing the Soviet Union.

Dr. Griffith, who is also a roving editor for The Reader's Digest magazine, has visited Jordan and the Middle East every year since 1972.

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Hebron is waqf — Tamimi

Continued from page 2

From the beginning, Islamic governments have pledged to provide protection and financial support, maintenance and other requirements of the mosque. The sheikh said that Jews could never enter the mosque, never going beyond the seventh step leading to it, on level with the cave. He said they had no rights whatsoever, to the mosque at the ground, and had never had any, nor had ever worshipped there.

He himself is a descendant of Tamim Al-Dary, who was given Hebron and its area as a "waqf" (trust) by the Prophet Muhammad. The decree reads: "This is what was given by Muhammad the Prophet of God to Tamim Ibn Aws Al-Dary and his brothers. They are given Hebron and Habroun and the House of Abraham and Al-Martouq and Belt Elnoun — a permanent gift to them and their descendants. Whoever harms them will be harmed by God."

This gift was implemented by the Caliph Omar Ibn Al-Khattab when he came to Hebron in the year 9 of the Hijra. Until this day, the whole area is still a "waqf". No-one owns anything in Hebron, but people rent their land for "use and investment" in return for rent called "hukr". If this "hukr" is not paid for three years, then the lessee forfeits his right to use the property. This was what happened in the case of the so-called Jewish quarter, Abanda and in 1929.

"Hebron and Palestine are Arab and Islamic lands and will remain so," said the sheikh, who is venerated by his compatriots.

'Ain Ghazal makes crucial link

By Steven Ross
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — If the bulldozer clearing the way for the new 'Ain Ghazal road had cut just half a metre deeper, a pivotal link in the history of human culture might have been lost.

But it didn't, and this summer an international archaeological team digging at the 8,000-year-old site discovered the link: a group of human statues and figurines that may be the earliest such representations ever made.

The statues are extremely similar to ones found in the 1930s at the world-famous Prepottery Neolithic (PPN) village at Jericho in the Jordan Valley, in a level that was dated by carbon 14 techniques to around 6,000-6,250 BC. This is the great importance of the find, and the reason why its discoverers are so excited. A link has now been firmly established between the culture of Jericho at that time and a site on the East Bank of the Jordan.

While the Prepottery Neolithic at Jericho was known to represent the earliest phases of man's transition from a hunter-gatherer to a farmer and maker of animals, 'Ain Ghazal — where the PPNB village was three times as large as at Jericho — may move the transition one step further into the use of pottery and the beginnings of other forms of cultural development.

The statues that seem to make all this possible are still in the ground. Mrs. Kathy Tubbs, a conservator who was flown in recently from the London Institute of Archaeology, is studying the best way to remove them with-

out damage. She told a press conference on Tuesday that an attempt was being made to do this by applying a consolidant to strengthen the material, and then individually lifting whichever figures were in a position to move.

There are at least five large (though less than life-size) statues, and around their feet, five to 10 smaller figures, two of which have been lifted so far. Mrs. Tubbs said there was a good possibility that there were more of the small ones, since the discovery was near the edge of the square being excavated. The large statues are about one metre long and the smaller ones about 35 centimetres.

The material seems to be a kind of crumbly clay, either partly baked or completely unbaked. The figures are part solid, part hollow (the legs on the larger ones are solid and the rest hollow). They are very cracked, sometimes distorted. But the statues' faces

bear what dig Co-Director Gary Rollefson of Yarmouk University calls "fantastic artistic expressions" considering their antiquity. There are small, lens-shaped eyes, long thin noses and eye balls seem to be represented by the insertion of what may be small stones, with a dark shell in the centre of some.

One face has stripes of red ochre colouring on its forehead and cheeks suggestive of the "war paint" of American Indians.

At Tuesday's press conference Dr. David McCreery, Director of the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR), said that in addition to its scientific importance the 'Ain Ghazal discovery should demonstrate to the world the archaeological richness of Jordan.

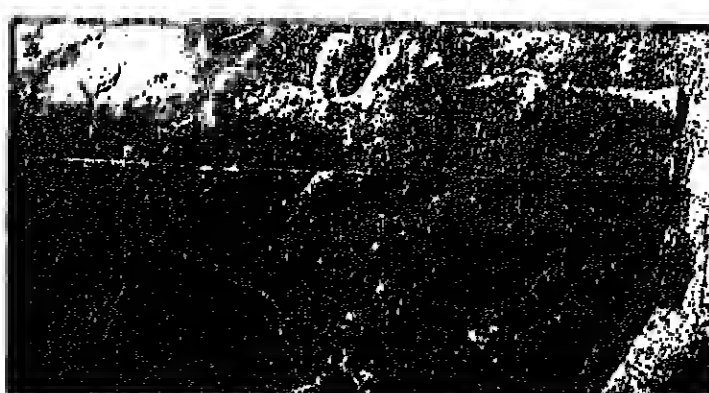
Dr. Rollefson emphasized that the site is now closed to the public, as too many visitors and picture-takers could harm the find.



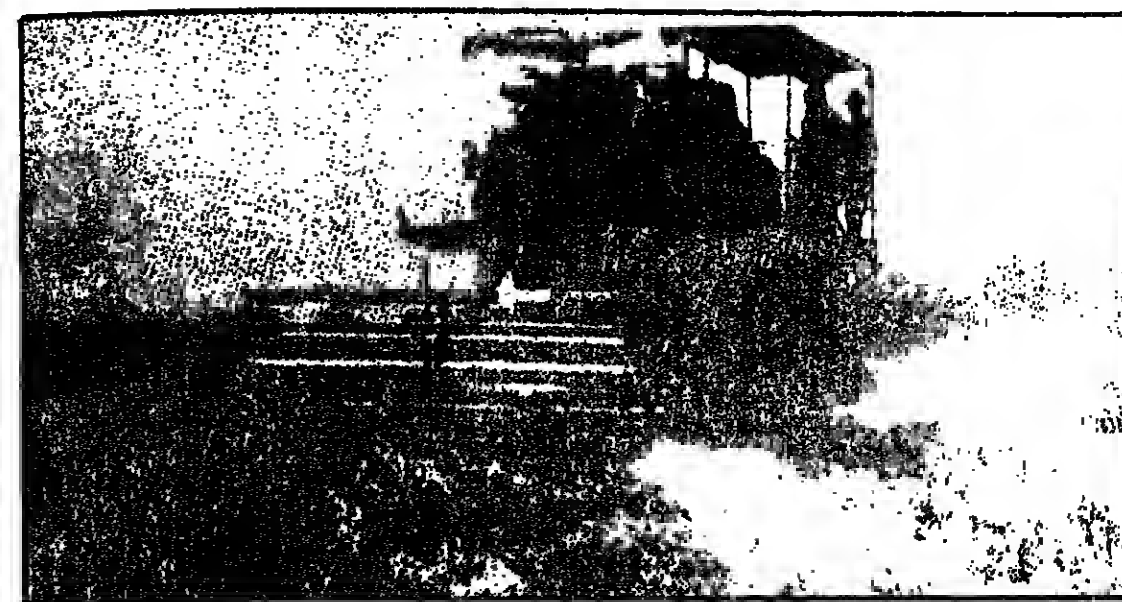
Heads of the larger clay statues, with one lying face-down



Dr. Gary Rollefson, dig co-director, explains the find



The statue group with small figures at the larger ones' feet (Pictures by Steve Rossi)



Jordanian grain harvester: WFP uses food as a medium to promote highlands farming development

WFP targets \$30 million aid in Jordan over three years

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Of the many international aid agencies and governments helping Jordan in its development, one — the World Food Programme (WFP) — is unique. The WFP, as its name implies, gives support through food and for food. Unlike others it gives no cash grants or loans, but its medium of exchange is a powerful tool.

WFP is not a technical assistance programme, but an investment agency, says Farid Oufi. WFP relies on UN specialized agencies to give advice on the feasibility of economic and social projects, said Mr. Oufi, who is Deputy Representative of WFP at the UN Development Programme's Amman office.

Mr. Oufi told The Star that the food is mostly as a form of cash — that is, it is given in lieu of cash, either to meet part payment of wages, or as an incentive for work. WFP does not act as an executive project agency, as this is usually done by the local governments.

Rainfed area development

In Jordan at the moment, there are three projects in operation: Two in support of the government's efforts in the development of rainfed areas, and one in school feeding. The three will cost WFP a total of \$30 million over a period of three years.

The programme for the development of high land agricultural regions is now in its third phase. The main objective is to arrest soil erosion by terracing and other control measures, and by planting fruit or forest trees. In some areas, shrubs are planted for the development of rangeland.

These activities are undertaken by small private farmers, or by the government on public land. Small farmers receive food as an incentive to do the job required in converting idle hillside land into a "bountiful piece of terracing," on which they plant fruit trees to increase their income.

Food aid is distributed to workers employed by the government for reforestation work as an incentive in addition to wages, in order to attract enough labour.

The food rations are carefully calculated to meet the minimum nutritive requirements of the worker and his family. The commodities distributed are what is actually consumed by farmers and workers alike: wheat flour, wheat, edible oil, dry skimmed milk, dates, sugar, tea, to the total daily nutritive value of 1,850 calories for energy; 48 grammes for protein, and 36 gr. for fat.

The second project in the development of rainfed areas is the rangeland and forage development. This project is unique in formulation because it is based on a study which proved it to be economically feasible.

One of its aims is the development of range reserves by protecting and intensifying the plantation of shrubs used as food for sheep. Many natural shrubs grow in Jordan, which, if protected, can be used as reserves in time of drought. In addition, there is one type called "aryplex", which sheep can feed on.

An attempt is also being made to introduce new farming patterns to include plantation of forage along with wheat, such as vetch, alfalfa or others. The purpose is obvious, Mr. Oufi commented. That is that green forage is a supplementary feed for sheep.

Convincing small farmers to keep their lands and fatten them, instead of selling them prematurely at a low weight level, is another goal. This is done by giving them loans to help them fatten their lambs until they reach market weight, which is around 35 kilos on the hoof.

"The whole project idea is based on co-operatives, because we are convinced that the idea for projects should come from the people, for the people, and that an organized way to do the job best can be found in the co-operatives."

Animal food security

In this case, Mr. Oufi said, the assistance is used as an incentive for farmers, members of co-operatives, to protect and increase the planting of their range reserves, which are located in different parts of the country. Then, at the time of their maturity, they can be used for grazing in an orderly, organized way to avoid destruction by overgrazing, thus providing "food security" for animals.

The food is also used as incentive for farmers who participate in the production of green forage, usually in the form of wheat, to compensate them for any loss they may incur in turning their land over to the production of forage instead of wheat.

Where food is used for support of farmers fattening lambs, the WFP provides the Jordan Co-operative Organization with wheat, which it sells to the Supply Ministry. The proceeds are then put into a revolving fund, from

which seasonal loans are provided for the farmers to enable them to keep and fatten their lambs.

School snacks

Supplementary school feeding is done through the Ministry of Education. Its target is 140,000 students in the elementary and preparatory cycles (aged 6-14 years).

This programme is applied in 850 schools over the country, and is in the second phase of its second year. The government has requested an extra phase with a reduced number of students in order to concentrate on the most needy areas, which are the rural and low-income communities.

School feeding, concluded Mr. Oufi, is based on providing morning snacks of bread and milk every day, and cheese and luncheon meat every other day. Bread is either provided to the schools through contracts with local bakeries or, where they are not available, wheat flour is given in a dry, take-home ration, on the condition students bring with them home-baked bread.

The WFP was established in 1963 on the new concept of using food as a capital in social and economic investment. It was established jointly by the General Conference of the Food and Agricultural Organization and the United Nations General Assembly.

After 20 years, WFP stands as the only UN agency for food to be used in emergencies and in development. WFP's operating capital for the year 1981/82 is over \$1 billion, "which makes it second only to the World Bank in providing development aid," Mr. Oufi said. It is financed on a voluntary basis by members of the UN and by FAO through pledges.

"The unique aspect of financing WFP is that it comes from both donor and recipient of aid." For example, Jordan has been a contributor to WFP over the last 20 years; at the same time, it is receiving assistance.

Financing from donors comes in three forms: commodities, services (shipping facilities, etc.) and cash. Those donors who can provide their pledges in food, do so. Those who cannot pledge cash, which is used for many purposes, including purchasing and transporting food to the recipients and administration costs. These costs are always kept at a minimum, not exceeding 5 per cent of the programme's operating capital.

Aqaba rail company covers new ground with extensions

By Sahl Hamzeh

THE OPENING last year of an extension to a phosphate mine at Wadi Al-Abyad brought a further source of traffic to Aqaba Railway Corporation (ARC). This took loadings up from 1.63 to 2.15 million tonnes, and this year we plan to carry 2.4 million tonnes. We are aiming to carry 4 million tonnes in 1985, and that figure will be more than trebled if plans to serve a new mine at Shidiya go ahead.

At the moment all ARC's traffic consists of phosphates, but we are taking steps to diversify. Traffic through Aqaba port currently totals about 7 million tonnes a year, and in due course we hope to be handling a share of this between Aqaba and Amman — grain, containers and general merchandise. This is being investigated as part of a national transport study being carried out by Dorset, Deacons and Hughes.

Between Batn Al-Ghuri and Ma'an ARC uses the infrastructure of the Hedjaz Jordan Railway; it has been strengthened and upgraded to handle 16 tonne axleloads and allow a maximum speed of 80 km/h.

Between Batn Al-Ghuri and Aqaba trains run over a 115 km line opened in 1975. The extension to Wadi Al-Abyad runs over the old Hedjaz alignment, with the bridges strengthened or rebuilt. Wadi Al-Abyad is 22.7 km from Al-Hasa, which was previously the northernmost limit of ARC's operations.

Until 1979 ARC was part of the Hedjaz Jordan Railway. In that year it became a separate entity with a headquarters in Ma'an and its own board of management. It began life in 1975, when the new line to Aqaba was opened, and route length now totals 292 km.

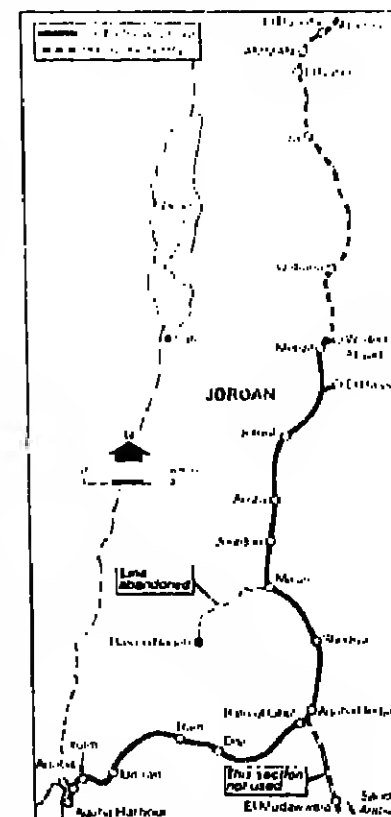
At the start, ARC was assisted by German consultants from Deacons and Rhein — Ruhr Ingenieur GmbH, but since 1980 technical and supervisory support has been provided by a team seconded from Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES). The present Rites contract runs to September 1984 and the number of Indians and staff working with ARC at the moment is 50.

Until last year all ARC's phosphate traffic came from the Hasa mine of Jordan Phosphate Mines Co., where drag-line mining commenced in 1981. The Wadi Al-Abyad mine began production in 1979 with 100,000 tonnes a year. This year it will produce 1.5 million tonnes, of which about 75 per cent will be hauled by rail to Aqaba for export. More processing plant is being installed and the rail loading facilities will be improved to match the mine's increased output.

Loading time for a standard 30-wagon train carrying 1,260 tonnes of phosphate is about one hour, and a train makes the round trip from Wadi Al-Abyad to Aqaba and back in a day. Up to eight trains a day make the return trip from Al-Hasa and Wadi Al-Abyad.

World pioneers

ARC made history with the world's first application of UHF radio to con-



trol block signalling using rail safe frequency-division multiplex equipment. One of the most compelling reasons for this was the harsh desert climate with extremes of temperature, dust storms and flash floods, all of which can easily damage lineside wires on cables. Only between Irbid and Aqaba are cables used for signalling and telecommunications. Elsewhere the VHF radio operates on a 450 MHz wavelength, and this is complemented by mobile VHF radios allowing direct speech links between train drivers, station staff and the control centre at Ma'an.

To familiarise staff with the equipment, a training centre with dummy stations was established at Aqaba. The Rites contract provides for on-site training of ARC staff, and Rites works closely with 22 engineers from ARC. The existing UHF link is likely to be extended to Wadi Al-Abyad.

Another improvement this year will be installation of level crossing barriers at Jerash, Al-Abyad and Rami-Quereishi, and at two locations in Aqaba, allowing safely to be improved.

New lines

Apart from the proposed upgrading of the Hedjaz Jordan Railway to allow 16 instead of 10.5 tonne axleloads between Wadi Al-Abyad and Amman, we are looking at a related scheme of major significance. This is the proposal to provide a rail link to the site of a phosphate mine with massive reserves at Shidiya, due to open in 1988.

Shidiya is located some 30 km south of Ma'an, and the mine is about 29 km from ARC's existing line. Because of the potential traffic of 10 million tonnes a year, it may be that a completely new line to Aqaba could be justified. Another new line under consideration is an east-west link to Safi on the Dead Sea, locations of the Arab Potash Co. The line would also serve the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company.

Mr. Hamzeh, ARC's director-general, wrote this article for *Railway Gazette International*.

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Nigeria gets new refinery but still needs more

LAGOS (OPECNA) — The Nigerian National Oil Company (NNPC) is to seek crude processing facilities outside the country to meet a shortfall in the production of domestic petroleum products.

NNPC chairman Haroro Agedah, speaking at the commissioning of the Kaduna refinery extension last Wednesday, said anticipated domestic consumption of high octane petrol, dual purpose kerosene and gas oil was expected to reach 8.45 million tonnes this year, while the combined capacity of the three national refineries was only 260,000 barrels a day (b/d).

He said there were plans to build two new refineries with a capacity of 100,000 b/d. The National Economic Council, which reviewed the country's economic situation in January recommended, that the government acquire outside refining facilities to process a "high proportion" of crude for home consumption.

Nigeria took a giant stride towards self-sufficiency in petroleum products when President Shehu Shagari commissioned the lubricating oil complex of the \$664 million Kaduna refinery.

Statistics from NNPC indicate that at present, in spite of the country's two other refineries at Port Harcourt and Warri, about 70 per cent of the petroleum products consumed in Nigeria are imported.

The integrated refinery in Kaduna was designed to process two types of oil — Nigeria's crudes for the production of liquefied petroleum gas, petrol, gas oil and fuel oil, and imported heavy, paraffin-based crudes for the manufacture of asphalt, wax and sulphur.

Oil market's performance raises hopes for stability

Opec success in holding back price drop surprises observers

By Adrian Hamilton

LONDON (ONS) — Has the oil market finally stabilised, and stabilised not just for the next few months but the next few years?

Oilmen always tend to be optimistic but this time there are a number of reasons for hoping that the worst of the downward pressure on prices is over and that the market might be entering a new period of balance between supply and demand, both short and medium-term.

The short-term reason is the apparent success of Opec in holding back exports, and hence buttressing prices, during the months of the intense des-

locking by oil companies and traders. Opec's success, as British Petroleum's oil trading and supply manager, Bryan Sanderson, says, has been unexpected and far from easy.

Against a formal agreement to hold total Opec output at 17.5 million barrels per day, actual sales had fallen to less than 15 million barrels in March. Though rising, they are not much higher than 16.5 million barrels a day now.

Saudi Arabia is bearing the brunt of decline, with a production of around 5 million barrels a day, while Nigeria actually increased its ceiling last month with an output that at one time was reported to have reached 1.8 million

barrels a day against an agreed ceiling of 1.3 million.

At a meeting of Opec's working committee in Paris, the Nigerian agreed to come back into line and now widely expected to remove the greatest sources of continued friction within Opec — the relative underpricing of Nigerian oil — before the next major meeting of the Opec in Helsinki.

Yet all is still far from certain. BP's Sanderson admits, the odds are still 50-50 on whether the price falls rises over the next six months. De-tocking continues, and there are a number of political reasons that could push Nigeria and other producers such as Mexico into relaxing their efforts to curb production.

But if Opec can get through the summer without a serious split, the odds change dramatically in its favour over the winter. Final demand then rises seasonally by as much as 1 million barrels a day. Non-Opec production is already near maximum, and will be Opec that has to fill the gap with a total production of perhaps 20 million against the current ceiling of 17.5 million.

Will prices then go up, as Iran and Algeria hope, or will they remain stable, as Saudi Arabia has suggested? And will they fall again next spring as seasonal demand drops and supplies develop?

The pessimists, with most of recent experience on their side, suggest that this is precisely what will happen in a market where at least 60 per cent of output is now traded under short-term contracts, compared to less than a quarter only two or three years ago.

The optimists, on the other hand, now see signs of new, more stable price structures emerging. In particular they point to the recent agreement between Venezuela and Veba of West Germany under which Venezuela supplies half of Veba's requirements at a price based on product prices realised within Germany.

There have also been negotiations by Kuwait and Saudi interests to buy the refining and marketing interests of Gulf in Europe and Amoco in Italy. This again, it is argued, could mean the crude will be priced at a variable long-term rate reflecting the final product market, not just the crude oil spot market.

In the longer term, the question is whether the oil has finally turned back to growth. It is an argument that hinges partly on demand and the extent of conservation and fuel-switching built into the market.

But, of course, it also depends on supply. One new element has been the sluggish pace of new oil discoveries. Although discoveries have more than kept pace with demand, at some 25 billion barrels a year, BP argues that these figures disguise the extent to which they include old fields that have been re-evaluated.

Removing all reserve additions from the calculations produces a figure of only 11 billion barrels of new oil a year well below the level necessary to replace consumption even at today's low demand figures.

It is well to remember, as Peter Holmes, one of Shell's managing directors, puts it: "The Middle East may be only supplying a third of the world's oil but still has two-thirds of the world's reserves."

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET REPORT

Unstable trading

THIS WAS a weak but unsteady week as far as handling and prices are concerned. After the first day, during which the record figure showed a 0.3 per cent rise in prices reached 1.6 per cent, the remaining four days of the week witnessed a price decline equalling the earlier increase.

Hesitation fell to an average of 0.5 per cent each day, indicating weak movement in the market. The market is expected to continue in this state until the end of August.

During this week, from 26 June to 1 August, more than 430,000 shares were handled in a market value of about JD 1,205 million, divided among 1,350 contracts. The average daily handling came to JD 240,000 but deviation was 19.1 per cent, or 3.8 per cent of total handling.

Banks

The banks sector occupied 66.6 per cent of all business. Five out of 16 banks occupied 72.4 per cent of the sector's handling or 48.2 per cent of total handling, led by the Arab Bank with 21.8 per cent of the sector or 14.5 per cent of the total. The National Bank occupied 19.3 per cent of the sector or 12.8 per cent of the total. The Jordanian Securities Corporation had 12.3/8.2 per cent. Bank of Jordan 10.7/7.2 per cent and Peini Bank 8.1/5.5 per cent.

Industry

The industry sector occupied 22.2 per cent of total handling. Five out of 29 companies in this sector occupied 49.5 per cent of the sector's activity or 11.2 per cent of the market total. Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company had 15.2 per cent of the sector or 3.4 per cent of total. The Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company 9.6/2.1 per cent; Jordan Cement Factories 8.8/2 per cent; Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Company occupied 7.5/2 per cent, and Intermediate Petrochemicals 7.4/1.7 per cent.

Services

The services sector occupied 8.3 per cent of total handling. Two out of seven firms had 61.4 per cent of the sector (5.1 per cent of the total): National Company for General Investments with 38.2/3.2 per cent and Arab Company for International Trade and Investment with 23.2/1.9 per cent.

Insurance

Last came the insurance sector, with only 2.9 per cent of total handling. The Jordanian Insurance Company alone, out of 10 insurance companies, occupied 43.5 per cent of sector or 1.2 per cent of the market total.

The stock of 62 companies was handled during this week, with price declines outnumbering advances 30-21. Among gainers, Jordan Securities Corp. closed at JD 1,920 up from JD 1,800; Dar Al-Sha'b Press and Publications at JD 1,260 up from JD 1,200; Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes at JD 15,500 up from JD 15,000; Islamic Investment House at JD 1,340 up from JD 1,300, and International Chemical Industries at JD 1,550 up from JD 1,500.

Notable price declines included Al-Quds Insurance closing at JD 1,910 down from JD 2,270; Jordan-Gulf Bank at JD 2,820 down from JD 3,220; Livestock and Poultry at JD 0,690 down from JD 0,750; Mass for Blades Industry at JD 0,700 down from JD 0,750; and Al-Mashreq Exchange Company, closing at JD 28,000 down from JD 30.

The record figure showed a 1.4 per cent drop as a result of the week. Hesitation came to 0.7 per cent.

In the over-the-counter market 275,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 190,000.

The weekly record

- A. Stocks showing a price increase
- B. Stocks showing a price decrease
- C. The mean record figure

Will the real bank of Palestine stand up?



By Robert Pouliot
Star Economy Analyst

IDENTITY: The Arab Bank Limited (not to be confused with Arab Banking Corporation, a different state consortium institution based in Bahrain).

RANK & SERIAL NUMBER: 151st among 500 of the world's top banks, and still climbing, thanks to assets now exceeding \$10 billion. In the Arab World, it ranks fourth, just behind Iraq's powerful Rafidain Bank (\$18.5 billion), the Saudi National Commercial Bank (\$15 billion) and the Banque Nationale d'Algerie (\$11.5 billion).

Its profitability before tax averaged an outstanding 29 per cent on its capital over the last two years, more than Bank America Corp. in the US, the Barclays Group in the UK or the Deutsche Bank in West Germany.

Its staff of 2,600 employees are among the most productive in the world, outflanking those of Citicorp or Chemical Bank in the US, Swiss Bank Corp. in Switzerland or even National Commercial Bank in Saudi Arabia.

There is hardly one major syndicated loan transacted on the international markets that goes by without the Arab Bank or its associated institutions in the UK, Nigeria, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, West Germany, France, the US or Hong Kong. Although it is retreating dramatically from those markets this year, the Arab Bank led loan syndicated managements with apportioned mandates worth \$1.5 billion over the last two years.

And three weeks ago, the Arab Bank became the first Arab institution to be granted a full commercial operating

wave of Arab immigration started in Canada and the United States.

Abdul Hameed, who at 21 didn't read or write, took the train to Haifa and from there, embarked for the New World with about \$40 in his pockets.

In New York, he had to ask directions with a piece of paper to reach a friend's place. He first set up in Buffalo and worked as a door-to-door salesman. Later on, he opened his first garment and textile shop before going back to New York to expand his business.

After 18 years of exile, he came back to Bel Hanina and Jerusalem, determined to open a bank that one day would operate along the same lines as those big New York institutions which had fascinated him so much.

About a year after his return, the Arab Bank was founded with 15,000 Palestine pounds and six other shareholders, mostly the family. Abdul Hameed controlled 95 per cent of the small institution. To compete against the powerful Ottoman and Barclays banks and attract deposits in what was essentially a cash trading society, Abdul Hameed had to show merchants and shopkeepers what a bank was and how they could benefit from leaving their deposits with him. Tales have him moving in souqs of Palestine and Syria, snatching bills from sales and carrying the money and its owner back to his bank.

Despite a succession of turmoils from the 1930s' Arab Revolt through the wars of 1948 and 1967, the civil war in Lebanon followed by the Israeli invasion last year, the Arab Bank not only grew but became a pillar of the emerging Arab capital market.

When Abdul Hameed died in 1974 and was buried in his native Palestine, the bank was making its first major step on the London market by setting up the Arab and Morgan Grenfell Finance Company with an authorized capital of £1 million. And five years later, in 1979, the marriage ended with the Arab Bank buying out the 50 per cent share of Morgan Grenfell and Company. The Arab Bank Investment Co. now acts as a significant merchant bank arm for the group's interest.

Up, up, up
Today, capital and reserves of the bank exceed \$400 million. Abdul Hameed's son, Abdul Majeed, a bachelor in sciences and MBA from New York University, took over as chairman in 1974.

The Shoman family holds 20 per cent of the bank's equity, as it always has. The government owns 10.9 per cent, with all of the rest owned by Arabs including the governments of several Arab states.

As it did during the old days of Abdul Hameed, the bank still maintains exceptionally high liquidity, shying away from speculative operations and massive commitments in real estate. That was the only way the institution could survive through the first half-century of political turbulence in the area.

As Khaled Shoman, son of the founder and born in New York, once said: "We're old fashioned, perhaps, but we're trusted."

And that is what really counts.

\$33m World Bank loan will support transport, sewers

AMMAN (Star) — A \$30 million World Bank loan to Jordan, signed in Washington last Thursday, is one of nine loans totalling \$525.9 million that the international agency announced in mid-July.

The loan is to provide the city of Amman with improved urban transport conditions and solid waste collection, the bank said. "A medium-term highway investment programme will also be prepared and the Amman Municipality provided with consultant services and training facilities for improving its operations."

Abdul Hameed Shoman

licence in Cyprus, where it will start onshore operations by the end of the year. Only two other foreign banks operate on this island with onshore activities: Barclays and the National Bank of Greece. Others such as the Bank of Credit and Commerce (BCCI) or the Federal Bank of Lebanon have only offshore operating licences.

From Bel Hanina to New York

Even if the Arab Bank is no longer the number one bank in terms of assets in the Middle East, it still is the oldest (53 years) and most trusted and professional of all Arab-based banks. Its history follows closely the fall and rise of the Arabs since the 1930s. In fact, it came close to being named "Mishrafistan" just before the well-known financier Talat Harb pulled out of establishing the institution sometime in 1929, leaving the whole burden on Abdul Hameed Shoman.

The story, a corporate legend against the blood and shambles of Palestine, goes back to 1911 when Abdul Hameed decided to abandon the family's lucrative quarry and stone-cutting business in Bel Hanina, just north of Jerusalem, for America. That is about the time the first real

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The world and the Armenian problem

By Len Rockingham
Star London Correspondent

LONDON — With British foreign policy towards the Middle East in a prolonged state of wait-and-see — and the message that the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, brought back from Washington last month is that the Americans do not know what to do either — the attention of the British public has been focused recently on one of the minority groups in the Middle East.

The people are the Armenians, who until 1915 inhabited their own land between Lake Van in Turkey and Mount Ararat, which is now in the Soviet Republic of Armenia. Since 1915, when one and three-quarter million Armenians were savagely expelled from Turkey, they have spread throughout the world — first in Syria and other Arab centres, like Beirut, then to France, the United States and, to a lesser extent, Britain.

Dramatic events

What brought the Armenians into the news in the past few weeks was a coincidence of dramatic events. In London, a trial was approaching its climax in which two young Armenians were accused of plotting to assassinate the Turkish ambassador. In Lissieux, the second Armenian world congress was attempting to forge greater political unity between the disparate Armenian groups. And, overshadowing both events, was the terrible incident at Orly airport in Paris, where a bomb exploded in a bag near the Turkish Airlines check-in desk, killing seven people and injuring 65 others.

Until news of the Orly bomb, the London trial



and the public awareness of Armenian activities had been low-key. There were indeed tight security precautions surrounding the trial at the central criminal court, 'the Old Bailey', but these are normal in London today, given the recent record of IRA violence stemming from Northern Ireland and of Middle East violence.

At first, the Armenian trial seemed more an example of good police prevention of crime than of escalating terrorist violence. One of the two accused, 32-year old Zaven Bedros, who was travelling on a Syrian passport, had been shadowed by the special branch ever since his arrival. No arrest was made until Bedros met up with the

other accused, a young Armenian grocer, Grish Gregorian, married to an English woman. In the event, the British jury failed to agree on the charge of plotting to kill the Turkish ambassador. Bedros was found guilty of possessing a pistol, ammunition and a fragmentation grenade and sentenced to eight years imprisonment. Gregorian, who is a leading political activist in London's Armenian community, was cleared of all charges and left the court a free man.

What changed public attitudes towards the trial was, of course, the Orly bomb. The immediate result was tighter security on all public buildings, and surveillance from a police helicopter

over central London. And last week there was a full-scale security alert at Heathrow Airport involving troops and armoured cars in case of reprisals. It is clear that the British security forces, acting in coordination with the French security service, the DST, are now taking the Armenian threat very seriously indeed.

Public sympathies

But how have public sympathies over the Armenian question been affected by these events? That is a question which many Arab readers may well ask. On the one side, it has to be said that there is now a greater awareness of the predicament of the Turkish government. In past years, 27 Turkish diplomats and members of their families have been murdered by the main Armenian guerrilla group, ASALA or its associates and world opinion has seemed to regard this as a private vendetta for the Turks. Now, after the Orly bomb, the Turkish government is being given more overt support in its struggle against what is clearly a tightly-knit and murderous group of extremists. In Ankara and Paris, it is believed the ASALA, which is a Marxist organisation, is being backed and trained by Syria and possibly the Soviet Union to destabilise Turkey's right-wing military government.

On the other hand, it has to be recognised that the Armenian bitterness towards Turkey has not emerged from the obscure recesses of academic research into the full light of day. A small group of young terrorists and activists have succeeded in doing what their calmer elders failed to do and have made the Armenian cause world headlines.

Zia to announce formula for future government

By Richard Bill

ISLAMABAD (AP) — After six years of martial law the Pakistani parliament has begun debating what sort of government to recommend for the country. It had up to the beginning of this month — they will be advisory and no more — for the formula for a future political system.

President Mohammed Zia ul-Haq has pledged to announce such a formula within three weeks, but he has also twice scheduled and then postponed elections, refusing to say what he has in mind except that the concept envisaged will be Islamic in character.

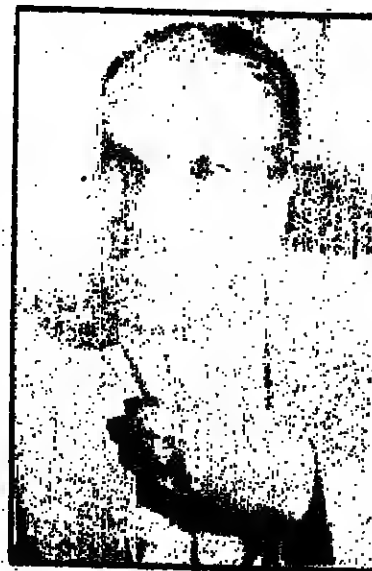
He has not allowed a national referendum on the issue, on which many Pakistanis remain deeply divided. Instead, he instructed the Majlis-e-Shura — a nominated body that can advise but not legislate, to come up with its own suggestions.

Some observers believe Zia, whose strongest support comes from the clergy, has no real framework to announce and once again may shelve the issue.

Zia's dislike for a parliamentary system is well known. Even so, discussions in the Majlis-e-Shura have come out strongly in favour of the idea. The apparent conflict suggests that members are keenly conscious of the possibility they may one day face the electorate themselves, should Zia ever step down voluntarily, be forced out or be persuaded into holding free elections.

Since the Majlis is not a representative body it is not competent to issue any recommendations, said Minister Ali Bhutto, a cousin of the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who held the post of communications minister in the late military government.

Challenges the authority of any government to force the issue of a referendum, said the opposition leader, the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who held the post of communications minister in the late military government.



President Zia ul-Haq

Zia has already done away with, said Munir Bhutto, now a key member of the opposition Pakistan Peoples Party founded by the late civilian leader, whom Zia toppled on 5 July, 1977.

Expectations have been building since Zia pledged a year ago to give Pakistan a new political order by 14 August, Pakistan's independence day.

Eight major opposition parties that have banded together under the banner Movement for the Restoration of Democracy have said they will mark 14 August with a nationwide disobedience campaign. High-ranking military sources now say Zia may make his long-awaited announcement on 10 August as he is due to make the sacred national day holiday controversial.

Although Zia has ducked questions concerning his new political order it appears from his pronouncements that he visualizes a completely new form of government. He says it will be Islamic, democratic and just.

He also says it will be Islamic, democratic and just.

Begin keeps Israelis guessing

By Arle Haskel

JERUSALEM (ONS) — Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin celebrated his seventieth birthday a fortnight ago quietly with only his family and closest friends. This was in marked contrast to last year's almost regal festivities, because he is still in mourning for his wife Aliza.

Nevertheless this explanation did little to dampen speculation that he may keep his pledge to bow out of politics when turned 70 and write his memoirs. The speculation was set off by the announcement that 'for personal reasons' he would not offer all he flying to Washington for talks with President Ronald Reagan. The nature of those reasons was not specified although Begin's aides strenuously denied his shaky health was responsible.

However, the mass circulation evening paper Yediot Aharonot, which is normally far from hostile to Begin, suggested that he had become 'a manic depressive' in addition to having suffered three heart attacks, a stroke and breaking his hip bone in his bath.

The source for the 'manic depressive' theory was given simply as Israeli 'medical circles' who were quoted as saying this would explain his sudden shifts in mood.

Thus when he addressed the Knesset, to answer a no-confidence motion by the Labour Opposition, although he looked frail his delivery was forceful and alert, in sharp contrast to earlier reports by some cabinet colleagues of him lapsing into fits of brooding melancholia.

The mood began last year with the death of his wife. They had been married 37 years after she followed him to Palestine when he came here with the Polish Army in 1942.

A member of the ultra-nationalist Betar movement since his youth, he quickly became the commander of the Irgun Zvai Lohmi which in 1944 declared independence and war on the British Mandate.

The first indication that he might be ill came in 1976 when he was hospitalized for a heart attack.

Washington came when they were summoned to an urgent Cabinet meeting. Those expecting to hear why the trip had been cancelled were disappointed. The Premier merely apologised for not having taken them into his confidence — 'for fear of leaks'.



Menachem Begin

Begin's aides and colleagues hasten to point out that there is really no urgent reason for him to go to Washington at this time, the suggestion being that little can be gained by exposing him to American pressure immediately in the wake of the visit by Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

This reasoning ignores previous arguments in favour of the trip on the grounds that Israel's economic plight demands top-level efforts to persuade the Reagan Administration to shift the emphasis in US aid from loans to grants.

Those who still think Begin may soon announce his resignation say his melancholy mood has been made worse by Israeli losses in Lebanon, where more than 300 soldiers have been killed and four times that number wounded.

In pushing his withdrawal plan through Cabinet, they think, he may have been trying to salvage his place in history as the man who not only

brought the peace with Egypt but also found the way out of the Lebanese imbroglio.

They argue that Begin made the decision not to go to Washington without consulting anyone, and presumably could do the same about standing down. Opinion polls show Begin's kind grouping, and he himself, have been losing ground to the point that elections were held now they would, ousted by the Labour alignment.

The only Cabinet member whose stock has been rising in the polls is the Defence Minister and former Ambassador to Washington, Moshe Arens. Whether he would be Begin's choice of heir and whether he could salvage the government's declining fortunes are both open questions.

Sadat's brother freed

CAIRO (AP) — The Supreme Court of Ethics on Monday ordered the release from prison of Esmat Sedat, brother of the late President Anwar Sedat, and Esmat's three sons, who were sentenced last February to a year in jail after being charged with corruption.

The nine-judge panel, led by Justice Ahmed Shihab-el-Hand, also upheld the lower court's order to sequester the property of Esmat and seven other family members.

There was pandemonium in the courtroom as the judge read out the decision on Esmat's appeal of his conviction. 'This is real Egyptian justice,' said Sadat. 'This is the greatness of Egyptian justice. I have no further comment.'

In his appeal last April, Esmat's attorneys claimed the lower court's judgement was full of omissions and insults. As Esmat was led from the courtroom, some 200-300 supporters cheered him and shouted 'long live justice.' Esmat was driven from the court in a police limousine, instead of the usual police van.

Pakistani Foreign Minister comments on missiles sale

NEW DELHI (AP) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzade Yekub Khan said Wednesday the reported sale of Harpoon missiles by the United States to his country would not throw out of gear the improving relations between India and Pakistan.

policy of opposing US arms sales to Pakistan, said the official who asked not to be named.

Khan left for Islamabad after participating in a ministerial meeting for South Asian Regional Cooperation in the Indian Capital. He also discussed bilateral ties with Indian leaders.

India on Tuesday reacted angrily to the weapons proposal, charging that the deal would cause a new arms race in South Asia. It asked the United States to think twice and urged Pakistan to reject the deal if it went through.

He said he briefed Mrs. Gandhi on the current situation in Afghanistan and about the visit last month to Islamabad by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. He did not give details.

Reports of the proposed sale appeared in the Indian Press Tuesday, when the Pakistani foreign minister was visiting New Delhi. The Indian government later said it confirmed the deal through diplomatic channels.

Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India over territorial issues, proposed in 1981 a no-war pact with India, which revived its offer of a friendship treaty along the lines of the 1971 Indo-Soviet treaty.

A Pakistani official said Pakistan did not take the recent Indian protest seriously. India just wants to say something again, consistent with its

The Indian stand was that a friendship treaty incorporated a no-war pact because it would lay down that, all bilateral issues should be settled directly and without resort to force.



WASHINGTON — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel (left) and President Ronald Reagan exchange a hearty handshake after issuing a joint statement at the end of a luncheon meeting at the White House. This was during President Gemayel's recent visit to the US. KEYSTONE.

Kuwait, Soviet Union denounce US military intervention

KUWAIT (Star) — Kuwait and the Soviet Union have blamed Israel and the US for the present chaos in the Middle East and consequently denounced "US military intervention in the area". A report carried by a Kuwaiti newspaper said the two countries rejected the American mediation role in the area since "America is party to the conflict, with special interest in the area." The Kuwaiti-Soviet stand was taken at the end of talks held between Kuwaiti and Soviet officials in Moscow. Kuwait is the only country in the Gulf having diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

Copts pray for their leader's release

CHICAGO (AP) — A spokesman for the Egyptian Coptic Christian church says the present Egyptian government has no valid excuse for allowing the leader of 8 million copts to remain under house arrest for two years.

Helmi Meawad, of the St. Mark and St. Bishop Coptic Orthodox churches, said Sunday the leader of Coptic church, Pope Shenouda has been held under house arrest by order of the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

The Copts were holding a prayer service for their Pope in Chicago, attended by representatives of many other denominations, including the Catholic, Lutheran and Greek Orthodox churches.

Meawad said Sadat, ordered the Coptic leader arrested to appease the Islamic majority. Current Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak could now order the release of Shenouda, but doesn't want to upset anybody.

Mubarak is indecisive man on the issue. Whenever he was questioned, he said he had nothing against the Pope, but he says the time is not right to



Pope Shenouda

release him, Meawad said. The time will never be right, under those conditions he added.

There are over 50,000 Copts living in the United States. The Coptic leader, who traces his lineage to St. Mark, is the 117th Pope.

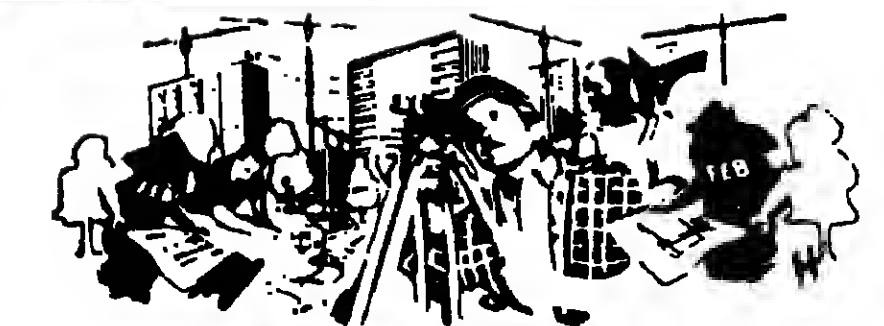
ADC plans to join march

WASHINGTON (Star) — The American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) plans to join a coalition march by civil rights groups and organizations to mark the 20th anniversary of the historic 1963 march by over 250,000 black Americans in Washington.

The march was organized by civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. to demand equal rights and justice for American blacks. The theme for this year's march is: "A call to the nation — we still have a dream, jobs, peace and freedom."

The Jewish groups argued that the mentioning of the Middle East meant Israel.

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'PLO is lawful representative of Palestinians'

By Carrie Nelle Thompson
Star Geneva Correspondent

GENEVA: "There must be a complete withdrawal of Israel from territories occupied since 1967, and a recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinians, including the right to establish their own state. An international conference should be convened among all interested parties including the PLO, the only lawful representative of the Palestinian people." These were the views of Mr. Herbert Haselike, representative of the German Democratic Republic, during the debate in the current session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) being held in Geneva.

Mr. Mohammad Abu-Khush, observer from the PLO, added that "the vote in the Council showed who supported the Palestinian people and who were against them." The vote was 48 — 1 supporting the 1982 resolution providing for assistance to the Palestinian people which, among other things, called on Israel to release civilians detained by the occupation army in Lebanon, to apply fully to those civilians the provisions of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and to apply to imprisoned combatants the provisions

of the Geneva Convention relating to them. The one vote against was cast by the United States.

Mr. Abu-Khush stated that the United States gave \$1 billion annually to Israel and that this money included funds for Israel's attacks against the Arabs. He felt "those parties that helped the Zionists to occupy Palestine should bear responsibility for the situation."

Further, he said it was ridiculous for the United States to claim itself a fighter for independence and yet vote for a draft that was against the principles of independence and freedom. "Israel has been a victim of a Holocaust but has also initiated a Holocaust on the Palestinian people."

Messrs. Haselike and Abu-Khush were outspokenly joined in these sentiments by the representatives of Argentina, Greece, Norway, Syria, China, Senegal and the Soviet Union. Particularly vocal was Mr. Ahmad Saker, representative of Syria, who acknowledged he was pleased that a peace movement was developing in Israel itself but that he regretted that the "Israeli and United States" governments continue to ignore the reality of the Palestinian people. He said measures taken by Israel in the Golan Heights and other Arab occupied territories indicated clearly that they were of a colonial nature.

Ahmad Saker felt such actions were disguised by Israel as being under the "guise of military security." He felt the Secretary General's (of the UN) Report on Permanent Sovereignty over National Resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories showed that "criminal offences have been committed by Israeli civilians. Discrimination (by Israel) against Arabs has no limit. In particular they (Arabs) in occupied territories have no political rights since they are living in a Jewish state."

In response, the representative from Israel, Mr. Ephraim Haran, reaffirmed his government's argument that no (Arab) civilians are being detained by Israeli authorities; rather, only members of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, a "terrorist organization", were being held as their release would "constitute a threat to the security of Israel."

Regarding the ECOSOC draft resolution, Mr. Haran felt it was inappropriate to single out Israel mentioning the "invasion" of Lebanon without taking into account the civil war in that country. (Since 1975). He felt the draft implied Israel had prevented the extension of assistance projects to the Palestinians.

Mr. Haran was especially critical of statements made against Israel's policy by the representative

of the Soviet Union, Mr. Gheorgiyev. Mr. Haran said, "I've heard history can be changed by the Soviet Union." While asserting that "Israel" not commit the horrible crimes of Sabra and Shatila, the Soviet Union had armed the PLO's tanks to disturb the peace in the area." Further, Mr. Haran attacked the statements by Mr. Z. Dietz of the German Democratic Republic, said "Germany, including people of today, have committed crimes against the Jewish people."

Arafat to visit Moscow

NICOSIA (AP) — PLO chairman Yasser Arafat will visit Moscow in September, the Palestinian News Agency (Wafa) reported Tuesday.

The Agency said Arafat has received an oral invitation for the visit from Soviet Prime Minister Yuri Andropov and the Soviet government.

The Soviet Union is one of the countries believed to be mediating behind the scenes in a dispute between Arafat and Syria over the role in the command of Arafat's Fatah militant guerrilla movement in Lebanon's eastern Bek Valley.

Woman fined for displaying flag

WASHINGTON (Star) — A Palestinian woman in the West Bank was fined approximately \$15 and given a four month suspended sentence for displaying a wooden plaque bearing the colors of the Palestinian flag in the nursery that she runs.

Tidal Aghbariyya, 23, received the sentence under the Tamir Law, which outlaws symbols with or "support for a hostile terrorist organization." The offending colours in the case were white, black, and green and were not exhibited in the form of a flag. Aghbariyya's defense attorneys felt he had helped his client by plea-bargaining case and avoiding a harsher jail sentence and fine. Nevertheless, he expressed surprise when he was told that the colours in question could also be found in the Jordanian, Kuwaiti, and Egyptian flags, among others.

Palestinian refugees visit Tunisia

TUNIS (Star) — PLO leader Yasser Arafat confirmed that Syria is proceeding with its plan as drawn up by the United States to remove Palestinian resistance from Beirut and Qana before September.

He told a meeting of representatives of Palestinian refugees in Jordan who are "stifling" the Syrian and Libyan war by giving the role of "stifling" the war by preparing a new mass movement against the Palestinian revolution.

"I do not want you to commit the mistake of believing that there is a fight among Palestinians," Arafat said, "but there is a Syrian attempt to implement Syrian resolutions against upon with Shultz to strike against the Palestinian revolution."

self, harshly, by "the fundamental principle of the civilized world." ... How rare is a nation that seeks salvation by revealing its shame." Now that this "cry of conscience" has been expressed and sympathy has been found, the United States can proceed with the qualms to pay the costs of the Lebanese invasion as the Times had recommended.

Within a few days, the opposition to a serious inquiry on the part of both Likud and Labour was swept aside in the political currents within Israel, and the Commission of Inquiry headed by Chief Justice Yitzhak Kahan was established. The commission's report appeared on 8 February, 1983. It evoked new raptures among the faithful. The New Republic wrote that this "great and grim document" set a "sublime standard of moral and political action" in "this extraordinary country." It was "a philosophical and political triumph," with its "moral seriousness and intellectual scrupulousness." Under the heading "Cry of Conscience," the New York Times wrote: "Painfully and convincingly, Israel has raked through the horrors of Sabra and Shatila and judged it."

(To be continued)
4 AUGUST 1983

Sri Lanka: Politics in the barrel of a gun

Communal strife between Sri Lanka's Tamil minority and the Sinhala dominant group is reaching a new pitch of violence as the discontented youth in the north of the island take the law into their own hands. In the following article Denis Peiris examines the causes of the unrest in the Indian Ocean Island.

TWO TAMIL youths in the North Sri Lanka Jaffna province gun down their victims on busy streets, then cycle away. After the assassination in April of two local election candidates of the ruling United National Party, the gunmen rode to a nearby village to tell the people there that some of those at the spot had been wounded; an ambulance should be called to get them to a hospital.

This is now a habitual pattern of violence in this Tamil-speaking region where members of the Tiger Liberation Movement believe Eelam, a separate state for the multi-racial nation's biggest minority, can come only from the barrel of a gun.

So far none of the witnesses to the killings — not even the villagers to whom the youths had spoken — will give the police or the army a description of the killers. A bland "we don't know who they are; we can't remember what they looked like", is the only response. "This is a country notorious for the anonymous letter", a security official said. "Yet in all these years of terrorism in the north we have not got a single tip-off." An army officer in Jaffna made the same point, using the same words. The guerrillas are operating in what Mao Zedong thought was ideal for such movements — like fish in friendly waters.

There is more than the fear of reprisals on informers, for the lack of names to the faces of the killer. The superficial explanation for this conspiracy of silence is that polling has broken down in the whole of the North. Fearful of being gunned down, the police will not move to investigate even petty crime or road accidents. The army will not go to their help until it has made sure it has not been set up for an ambush. Licence fees for radios, bicycles and cars are not paid; traffic jams in Jaffna without police direction. With this evidence of insecurity, who would dare tell on the guerrillas?

Instead, civilians see the guerrillas as their protectors against the unruly. When civil strife broke out in Jaffna between Muslims and Hindus, the two groups were warned by the guerrillas to live in harmony or else. Guerrillas have shot thugs and other malefactors who harass citizens. The deeper reason people withhold the information on the guerrillas is that the 'terrorists' are seen by the Tamils as vindicating national pride in a humiliating 'military occupation'.

This is not a gung-ho army, however. The military has advised the government that a political question needs a political solution. Military sources in Jaffna estimate the number of Tigers (Tamil guerrillas) at about 200, with a hard core of about 60. Unlike the Sinhalese Insurrection of the Janata Vimukti Peramuna (JVP) People's Liberation Front in 1971, the Tigers are not providing cannon fodder by operating in large bands. They work in teams of two at most, killing and then melting away in the civilian population. Stepped-up military activity, in these circumstances, will be ineffective.

The guerrillas also escape in fishing boats across the narrow Palk Straits to southern India. There, the government and the opposition have made support for the Sri Lankan Tamil a party issue. Relations between Sri Lanka and India are consequently sore. The beleaguered Mrs. Indira Gandhi, challenged both by threats to her own power and the fragmentation of India into regional and linguistic states, is not intervening on behalf of the Sri Lankan government. According to a Sri Lanka Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) politician (the party was banned last week) who met Mrs. Gandhi, she is plagued over President Junius Jayewardene's pro-Western policies.

The pattern of Tiger violence has widened, from killing police and soldiers to the assassination of collaborators with the UNP. In the run-up to the May local elections they assassinated two UNP candidates, scaring its other members into withdrawing from the polls. TULF candidates who were threatened said they would not stand for elections. An embarrassed party leadership had to persuade its nominees to change their decision. Voter-turnout in the elections was only 23 per cent; in one constituency only 1 per cent.



Sri Lankans wait for hours in front of shops in Colombo hoping there will be some provisions left to buy, following five days of rioting.

and in another 2 per cent. Two guerrillas with a gun may not win Eelam, but they have the power now to veto the whole democratic process. Indeed, the Sinhalese-Tamil debate in the north is turning into a dialogue with death. TULF politicians who cannot deliver a solution through negotiation are becoming irrelevant in the North.

The roots of the tension between Sinhalese and Tamils go back to decisions taken after 1956 to redress an imbalance which, under colonial rule, had made the Sinhalese (now 72 per cent of the 15-million population) an economic and culturally deprived majority, while the Tamil elites (currently 11.2 per cent) had a disproportionately large share of jobs in the public services. Sinhala was made the official language, severely constricting employment opportunities for Tamils. In Sri Lanka's stagnant economy, the public sector — white collar jobs — is the only remunerative area open to the middle classes. However, the

Bondurtnalke policy of depriving the Tamil Peter to give jobs to the Sinhala Paul did not entirely solve Sinhalese unemployment.

In 1971, the JVP, representing Sinhala unemployed youth in an economy that was on the skids, rose in rebellion against the failure of the government to satisfy their expectations.

After breakdowns in 25 years of negotiation over forms of regional autonomy, the frustrated Tamils have escalated their demand to Eelam, a separate Tamil state. This, for the Sinhalese, is an impossible concession. Eelam, as the Tamil demarcate it, would encroach on what the Sinhalese see as their territory. They also fear Eelam would be linked with South India's Tamils, the historic enemy, who until late in the 12th century, had invaded the island and destroyed its irrigation system and ancient capitals.

South/Third World Media

Drought victims receive less aid

GENEVA (Star) — The 1974 Ethiopian drought which claimed 200,000 lives was contained in one province and was insignificant compared to what is happening in four provinces there now according to Dawit Wolde Giorgis, Chief Commissioner of Relief and Rehabilitation of Ethiopia.

Addressing a press conference held under the auspices of the UN Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) Mr. Giorgis noted that a strong appeal launched to the world community in March for relief for the "nearly 4 million affected" had resulted in a small immediate response but that his has now dropped to virtually nothing. He said 900,000 tons of grain had been requested but only 85-90,000 tons had been received. Further, a plea had been made for trucks as transportation is a major problem (for both distribution of goods and getting 2.3 million victims to relief centres for assistance) but the world had not responded.

Mr. Giorgis had no explanation for this lack of response, except to say there had been false rumours regarding a diversion of the grain to the Soviet Union, which he assured those present was not the case. Nor did he feel Ethiopia's political involvement with the USSR was of significance.

In reference to a question regarding the thousands of trucks reportedly given to Ethiopia by the Soviet Union, Mr. Giorgis stated: "All trucks from whatever sources are being used for the emergency" but he repeatedly said there were only a few.

Mr. Giorgis stressed that Ethiopia's problems were not limited to those caused by the drought but also by the continuous fighting in the East. He gave \$35 million as a total figure needed for food items, transportation means, medical and public service facilities.

Andropov gets a Hungarian lesson

By Mark Frankland

MOSCOW — The visit to Moscow by the Hungarian leader János Kadar has been more than a routine duty call by a Soviet East European ally.

For the Russians, it was an important chance to persuade Kadar and his closest colleagues of the wisdom of policies about which the Hungarians, like some other East Europeans, are not entirely happy.

The Russians have two main messages for East Europe. The first is the need to rally behind Soviet strategic policy, above all the decision to match NATO's deployment of new missiles in Europe — if it comes — with a similar Soviet deployment. Second is the importance of pressing ahead as fast as possible with the economic integration of Comecon, the Soviet bloc common market.

The Kadar government is not in the business of demonstratively obstructing Soviet wishes. That is left to Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu who uses his more or less public disagreements with Moscow to win points at home for a government that otherwise has rather little to boast about. The Hungarians' doubts about the direction of some Soviet policies are scarcely less substantial than Romania's. They are shared to some extent by most of the other East Europeans.

It remains an open question whether the meeting of East European leaders here in June was meant by the Russians to produce more toughly worded warning to the West about the consequences of NATO missile deployment. Soviet sources, as might be expected, insist that the Soviet side was satisfied by the result.

But there is no doubt that the Hungarians do not welcome the prospect of the further deterioration of East-West relations and particularly East-West European relations that the Russians are threatening.



Yuri Andropov

Hungary's political and economic successes are tied to the relaxation of East-West tensions.

Anything that diminishes Hungary's considerable contacts with the West will be unpopular and it is not surprising that Hungary signalled its readiness to accept the compromise deal that may save the Madrid talks on the 1975 Helsinki agreement before the Soviet delegation had showed its hand.

Kadar's popularity, for which he is genuinely admired by many Soviet officials, partly depends on the way he has convinced his people that a Communist Hungary does not have to live behind an Iron Curtain. Economic experts have special interest there. Though the Hungarians are of course committed to Comecon, they believe that economic progress demands that they maintain extensive trade links with the West. They argue that this is necessary to keep Hungarian industry up to the world level of design and technology. Economic links with the Soviet Union, though in many

ways advantageous — for example the Soviet sales of oil at lower than world price — can have the reverse effect. The Soviet market is so huge and relatively undemanding that it often provides East European industry with little stimulus for improvement.

A Czech economist described to me not long ago how Soviet orders for Czech locomotives were impeding technological development in the factory that built them. The Soviet consumer was happy with the locomotives and wanted no change, though by world standards they were growing old out of date that it might even be hard to sell them to Third World markets.

Judging by the Soviet reports of the Hungarian discussions here, the Russians have argued strongly the need to bring the two countries' economies even closer together. They also stressed the need for greater political and ideological co-operation, not least to prepare for a decisive struggle with hostile bourgeois ideology.

This last phrase came in the official account of President Andropov's conversation with Kadar which was a *fait-à-fait*, the only other person present being Kadar's interpreter. There can have been few recent meetings in the Kremlin to match the interest of this encounter.

Andropov was Soviet Ambassador to Budapest during the Hungarian uprising of 1956 and helped choose Kadar as the man to lead Hungary out of that crisis. Few Soviet decisions about East Europe have been so successful and as a result Kadar's ideas and arguments command special respect in the Kremlin.

Their conversation, according to the Soviet news agency Tass, took place in an atmosphere of warmth, friendship and mutual understanding on all questions under discussion. The phrasing seems to allow for some difference of opinion between the two.

ONS

UN envoy's star shines in the White House

UNITED NATIONS — Alexander M. Haig Jr., once disparagingly called Jeanne Kirkpatrick by a company commander, seven grades below his four-star rank in the field of American foreign policy.

In the year since Haig's election as secretary of state, Mrs. Kirkpatrick's own star has risen at the White House, where she has become an influential voice in the formulation of US policies toward Central America.

President Reagan recently appointed the outspoken UN ambassador as his representative on a bipartisan commission on Central America headed by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Mrs. Kirkpatrick, herself, scoffs at the notion that she has become the chief architect of Central American policies, saying that if there has been any shift in the decision-making process away from the State Department it has been toward Reagan himself, rather than toward her.

It is, she told a reporter, perfectly regular and normal that particularly salient or particularly delicate issues be dealt with by the President. That is a fact for the balance of the crisis as it is for the conflicts in Central America, she said.

My role is obviously not a function of my membership on the NSC (National Security Council), she said when reached by phone at her office in Washington. Her position is chief US delegate to the United Nations, carries Cabinet rank.

A senior State Department official in Washington noted her input on Central American policy matters as major and indicated her influence on the issue had grown at the expense of that of Secretary of State George Shultz, who preferred a less rhetorical approach to the problem.

Asked to explain Mrs. Kirkpatrick's leading position, the official, who asked not to be identified, replied, she knows the key players. She has a lot of experience in that area.

A former professor of political science at Georgetown University, Mrs. Kirkpatrick is fluent in Spanish and has had a long-standing interest in Latin American affairs. Her doctoral thesis dealt with the Peronist movement in Argentina.

The State Department official traced the ascent of Mrs. Kirkpatrick — teamed with National Security Adviser William Clark — back to last January. It was then that Thomas E. Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, reportedly recommended that the administration give more consideration to a negotiated, power-sharing settlement of the conflict in El Salvador.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick was sent to Central America in February to make an assessment of the situation for the White House. After her dire appraisal, the president pressed congress for a \$110 million boost in military aid to the embattled Salvadoran



Jeanne Kirkpatrick

government. Three months later, the President removed Enders.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick, who last spring became the target of protests on several college campuses, is described by press descriptions of her as a hawk, maintaining that she offers almost no advice on military affairs and is chiefly concerned with the social, economic and political aspects of the Central American problem.

She speculates that her hawkish image stems from her strong views on the Soviet line, which she regards as playing an expansionist role in Central America and providing a lot of support to groups trying to destabilize the region.

Despite differences in approach, the senior State Department official said, there is little disagreement on basic policy objectives between Shultz and Mrs. Kirkpatrick. The two continue to communicate with each other, although not on a regular basis, he said. There have been no reports of personality clashes.

In contrast, Mrs. Kirkpatrick's relations with Haig, Shultz's predecessor, were obviously strained, giving rise to recurrent speculation that the UN envoy was on her way out. One of the points of contention was US policy toward Latin America.

Louisiana gets licence to kill

By Michael Acosta

NEW ORLEANS (ONS) — Louisiana, the Deep South state where whites are obsessed with guns and the fear of black criminals, has approved a law which permits a homeowner to shoot to kill anybody who enters his property without his knowledge and permission.

Louisianians, who have gone on a gun-buying spree in the past few years, handed the shoot-the-hungry law, which was approved by the white-dominated legislature with little debate and signed into law by Republican Governor David Treen, a strong supporter of President Ronald Reagan. It is the only such law in the country.

Black organisations and liberal groups have denounced it as a licence to kill because a householder can fire at anybody, whether or not the intruder has entered the premises with intent to steal. Police have also expressed deep misgivings about the wide latitude of the legislation, which they fear could serve as a pretext for murder and lead easily to accidental shootings of family and casual visitors.

Guns of all kinds are easily available in Louisiana and in neighbouring states. There is only a perfunctory check of identity. In the last two years families have been arming themselves and

taking shooting lessons in the gun schools that have proliferated throughout the state.

Many women carry pistols in their handbags to fend off muggers, and rare is the man in Louisiana who doesn't keep a gun in the glove compartment of his car. Many homes, particularly in the wealthy neighbourhoods of New Orleans, are armed fortresses, complete with television security system. Businessmen frequently slip off their lightweight bullet-proof waistcoats and their heavy-weight revolvers.

Most crime in New Orleans is perpetrated by blacks against blacks, but when a white is the victim the local news media give the event wide publicity. Crime stories often dominate television news shows. Louisiana's cities, like most United States urban centres, have a serious crime problem. Opponents of the shooting law say meddling unemployment and education would be a better solution to the crime problem, but they find little support in a state which has an gun control legislation and where people believe the shoot-the-hungry law will deter criminals because of the risk of death.

Ernest Morial, the black Mayor of New Orleans and a critic of the law, this week released statistics showing that major criminals offences, dropped 7 per cent in the first six months of 1983. Crime is a principal concern in New Orleans, a major convention and tourist centre.

Craxi finally makes it

By Peter Jarocki

ROME (ONS) — Bettino Craxi, the combative leader of the Italian Socialist Party, has finally made it. Barring upsets, he will become Italy's first Socialist Prime Minister this month.

Craxi has been after the job for years: in the last Parliament he kept on destroying governments in the hope of forcing a general election, which he managed to bring about in June.

Although the Socialists had expected to increase their share of the vote by more than their meagre extra 1.5 per cent, they nevertheless scored a victory of a kind because the ruling Christian Democrats stumbled from historic low.

Craxi's only possible rival, the Republican leader Giovanni Spadolini, was Prime Minister from 1981 to 1982, so it is clearly Craxi's turn now. Reluctantly the Christian Democrats and their allies have had to resign themselves to Bettino taking the reins.

Even his opponents acknowledge he has done a lot for the Socialist Party which, when he took charge of it in 1976, was in very poor shape. Although it won only 11.5 per cent of the votes last month, it has shaken off its traditional image of always playing second fiddle to either the Communists (30 per cent) or the Christian Democrats (32 per cent).

Today the Socialists' power and influence is completely out of proportion to their modest electoral strength. Thanks to Craxi's initiative, the Socialists boast the country's highest office, the presidency of the republic, held by Sandro Pertini.

Constitutional reform

Craxi has long insisted that the first step to effective government in Italy is to tackle the issue of constitutional reform. The Italian constitution of 1946 was drawn up in such a way as to prevent the rise of another Mussolini. Consequently, Italy's executive is the weakest in Europe and most of the power is vested in the two houses of Parliament. The system is wonderfully representative but in practice produces eternal deadlock.

The Socialists have been floating several ideas, some of which have been steadily gaining ground among the two largest parties, the Christian Democrats and the Communists.



Bettino Craxi

The most urgent question facing Craxi is the enormous public deficit, which amounts to 8 per cent of gross national product. It seems unlikely that a Socialist-led government will carry out a real austerity programme, although it will have to do something. The Socialists believe the problem can be solved not by cutting down on government spending but by clamping down on millions of Italy's notorious tax dodgers, especially among the self-employed.

Craxi is a firm NATO man, convinced of the need to station American missiles in Sicily, but this is not true of his party as a whole, particularly of the left wing. The issue is likely to cause him a lot of problems, especially as he does not want to alienate the Communists from the possibility of future leftwing coalition.

How long the present Craxi coalition will last is anybody's guess. Craxi is well aware that the Christian Democrats are giving him rope to hang himself, but I am more cunning than they are and will outwit them all.

IN BRIEF

● **KARACHI** — A young German couple was arrested Sunday night at Karachi Airport after authorities found about \$20,000 worth of expensive Japanese watches taped to their legs. According to customs sources, 128 Seiko-Five automatic wrist watches were recovered from Wolfgang Kope, 29, and 232 of the same type from Miss Jager Hedwig Ursula Maria, 22. The two Germans, whose hometowns were not given, were travelling from Bangkok.

● **NAIROBI** — Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre has offered direct normalization talks with Ethiopia once Ethiopian troops evacuate two small border enclaves it has occupied since last year, Radio Mogadishu reported. Siad Barre made the announcement, a repeat of at least two previous similar offers, at the closing session of the Somali Peoples Assembly. The Somali leader accused Ethiopian powers of stirring up trouble in the Horn of Africa for their own interests.

● **SAN SALVADOR** — President Alvaro Magana has postponed the presidential elections scheduled for later this year to 1984 because of delays in drafting a new constitution for the rebellion-wrecked nation. Magana told the Associated Press that he did not know when the elections would be held next year, but his spokesman, Louis Lagosin said in an interview earlier it was hoped they would be held as early as February.

● **ANKARA** — A new labour law allowing women six months of maternity leave without pay went into force Saturday with publication in the official gazette. Under the new law, women will have paid maternity leave of six weeks before and six weeks after birth as in the past. If they want additional time off, they will now be allowed unpaid leave of a further six months. The new law bans child labour, forbidding employers to hire anyone under the age of 15. The law also requires work places with more than 50 employees to give jobs to handicapped persons and former convicts.

● **NEW DELHI** — India's new army chief assumed office Monday, calling for greater responsibility among the country's nearly one million soldiers in defending the nation. "Our responsibility becomes all the more important due to the events and developments taking place in our neighbouring countries and elsewhere," said General Arun Shridhar Vaidya. The new Chief of Army Staff, formerly in charge of the army's eastern command, did not elaborate on this statement in a speech in India's 944,000 soldiers.

● **WARSAW** — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa has returned to work after a month long vacation that nearly cost him his shipyard job. He declined comment on the future of the outlawed union, Walesa, an electrician at the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk, went back to work as plans apparently were being drawn up to mark the third anniversary of Solidarity's founding amid shipyard strikes. Union supporters marked the 31 August anniversary last year, with nationwide demonstrations against the 13 December, 1981 totalitarian martial law and suspension of Solidarity.

● **PARIS** — A man fell to his death from a seventh-story window and two other people were injured Sunday in a fight between two Sri Lankan ethnic emigre factions in northern Paris. Police said about 20 Sri Lankans belonging to the minority Tamil tribe burst into an apartment occupied by members of the majority Sinhalese tribe in an apparent reprisal for a fight at a demonstration in southern Paris. Four people were injured and 12 others arrested during that demonstration to protect sectarian violence in Sri Lanka.

● **JOHANNESBURG** — A white man pulled a gun and used it to knock out and disarm another white man who had robbed and stabbed four black newspaper readers, the Rand Daily Mail reported. The paper quoted police as saying Eli Galp, 29, the eldest manager of a Johannesburg company, asked his life to apprehend the knife-wielding robber.

'Super K' is back:

Reagan calls on Kissinger to 'save' Central America

By Robert Cheshtyre

WASHINGTON — If Ronald Reagan had delivered a midnight speech from the roof of the White House, floodlit and wearing nothing but a bathing suit, he could not have attracted more attention to his Central American policy than he did this week by recalling Henry Kissinger from the political cold.

Six-and-a-half heart-rending years since the election of Jimmy Carter sent him packing from office, yet still only 60, Kissinger remains the most celebrated and controversial figure in American public life — reviled by his many detractors as the reincarnation of both Mephistopheles and Machiavelli, while lauded by his fans as a Metetrach.

His surprising appointment — to head a bipartisan commission on US Central American policy — released an electric charge of excitement around Washington. "It is," said one foreign policy specialist, "quite simply the most fascinating political development of the past two-and-a-half years."

For Kissinger, the German-born Jew who emerged from Harvard to advise administrations and achieved apotheosis in the 1970s as secretary of state and American foreign policy suprema, has remained a potent, brooding presence in the wings of public life. Washington always knew that one day the devious, brilliant, arrogant, ambitious "Super K" would be back.

What was unexpected was that the call should have been made by Ronald Reagan, whose home-spun brand of anti-intellectual and isolationist anti-communism stands in marked contrast to the wily pragmatism of the architect of détente and diplomatic relations with Peking — in 1976 Reagan campaigned against Kissinger's record when he was trying to wrest the Republican nomination from Gerald Ford.

It was also surprising that the subject of his recall should have been Central America, a part of the world despised in the past by Kissinger as off the beaten diplomatic track.

What in any circumstances would have been a startling move is at this moment doubly so, since Kissinger is embroiled in a fierce controversy over the morality of his conduct when he served in Richard Nixon's White House.

The attack on Kissinger is made in a devastating exposure by a Pulitzer prize-winning journalist of Kissinger's years as national security adviser, marking him out to be not merely a war criminal and a monster, but an alternatively cringing and bullying bureaucratic in-fighter with the probity of a rattlesnake.

Right and left opened up on the appointment with an immediate fusillade of denunciation. "There may be someone in this broad land," said ultra-right-wing Senator Jesse Helms, "who is closer to my list of choices than Mr Kissinger, but I can't think of him."

A conservative publisher said: "Kissinger was the nation's No. 1 foreign policy official when US foreign policy virtually collapsed, leading to the loss of Angola, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia."

Jewish affluence may be in Middle East's favour

By Len Rockingham
Star London Correspondent

LONDON — The events of the past week in Britain have brought to prominence some notable Jewish personalities, many of whom are prepared to admit that they are Zionists as well as Jews. Since these events came at a time when Britain's business contacts with the Arab world are at a low level, because of the worldwide recession and the recent fall in oil prices, the casual observer might conclude that Britain is now becoming more pro-Israeli. But in fact this is not the case.

But what are these events. One was the prime minister's attendance at a dinner to found two university professorships in Israel in the name of Mr. Shlomo Argov, the former Israeli ambassador whose shooting in London last year was the pretext for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. A second event was the reception at the House of Commons to mark the 125th anniversary of the first Jewish member of parliament being elected. Then, on 1 August the first ever Jewish chairman of the British Broadcasting Corporation (the BBC) took up his appointment.

A liberal congressman commented that Kissinger's record was one of "total reliance on militarism and power. I can't see anything good coming of it."

The reason for the Kissinger summons is that Reagan is now desperate over Central America. In the field, matters deteriorate daily. At home, the public is increasing fearful that US troops will eventually be drawn into the conflict — "a President never says never," were Reagan's last words on that.

Congress, dismayed by the burgeoning "coward" war against Nicaragua and by lack of negotiation with Salvadoran guerrillas, is trying the pincer strategy: this week it voted exactly half what Reagan had requested in military aid for El Salvador.

For months some leading members of Congress, like Senator Henry "Scoop" Jackson, have been calling for a bipartisan approach that would tackle not just military problems, but also economic and political injustices — a kind of Marshall Plan for the region on the lines of the one that revived Europe after the war.

Faced with the disintegration of his policies on the eve of a probable re-election bid, Reagan picked up the Jackson plan, subtly reshaping it as an instrument to sell current policy and buy much needed time. Who better to lead this tricky enterprise than Kissinger, who certainly shares Reagan's anti-Soviet goals, and brings to the task skills not readily found within the administration?

William Clark, the national security adviser, has been meeting Kissinger regularly for a year, and Secretary of State George Shultz consulted the grand doctor when launching the "Reagan" Middle East peace initiative last September. Shultz then said of Kissinger: "He is a wonderful person and a great friend," and Kissinger is believed to have been considered earlier this year as a special Middle East negotiator.

Reagan may denounce Kissinger but close to they tend to be in awe. Two months ago Kissinger was involved in a last-ditch effort to win the staging of the next World Soccer Cup for the United States. On the eve of his final meeting with FIFA officials, he held a press conference for foreign reporters in Washington.

The conference was chaired by the director of the US Information Agency, Charles Wick, a former Hollywood talent agent with whom the Reagans always spend time at Christmas. He introduced Kissinger with fawning zeal as "one of the world's great men, one of history's great men," words that Kissinger, nodding and smiling, accepted as no more than his due.

Reagan apparently had to have his arm twisted before he agreed to Kissinger's appointment, but with enthusiasm like that among his closest friends, his blessing was only a matter of time.

As for Kissinger, friends say that he has been itching to return to the limelight: no "resting" actor could have missed the smell of the grape-paint and the roar of the crowd more keenly than Kissinger has missed the shuffling, the press cam-



Kissinger in Nixon's White House

ferences, the flattery of potentates, and, above all, the manipulation of power.

And he is also in dire need of rehabilitation. The attack on his probity — "The Pride of Power" by Seymour Hersh — is a 408 pages of sustained attacks with a catalogue of horrors and lies laid at Kissinger's door, some of which he has already denounced as "stupid lies."

Kissinger is portrayed ingratiating himself with his boss, Nixon, even going along with the president's anti-Semitic invective — "There are Jews and Jews, Mr. President" — lulling his subordinates and undermining his colleagues.

The book is a hatchet job, and some of the evidence twisted and highly selective, but the accumulation of detail — based on 1,000 interviews and a vast array of written sources — is ultimately damning. The result has been a flood of ridicule and vilification which must have even someone as notoriously tough as Kissinger.

His immediate task is to get to grips with a part of the world that he once despised, saying that Latin America was "a dagger pointing at the heart of America" — in short, irrelevant to the United States. The assiduous Hersh quotes Kissinger telling a Chilean diplomat in 1969 that the South is totally unimportant, that he knew nothing of it and that, what's more, he didn't care.

Congressional critics of his appointment, bitterly disappointed by what they see as a loaded commission — none of the 12 members appears to be a fundamental critic of present policy — charge that Reagan knows he has nothing to fear from his choice. If anything, said one senior aide, Kissinger will go further than Reagan and advocate "five times as much military aid, the bombing of Cuba and threats against the Soviet Union if they don't stop meddling."

Reagan, so these critics charge, will be able to turn the commission's report, which is due by 1 December, against those who called for it, playing on the electoral fears of Democrats who might be charged with "losing" Central America if they don't vote the money Reagan asks.



Seymour Hersh

Kissinger, who in private life heads an international consulting company, Kissinger Associates, which reputedly charges up to \$225,000 for its services, is said by acquaintances to hope for further government commissions. He probably harbours dreams of returning to the State Department but, given the electoral probabilities of the next few years and the Hersh assassination, they are unlikely to be realised.

Despite heart bypass surgery just over a year ago, Kissinger always looks in tanned good shape.

Friends, who remarkably include several of the people whose phones he has tapped a decade ago, threw a \$50,000 sixtieth birthday party for him recently in a New York hotel. He has been married for nine years to the fiercely loyal Nancy, an elegant blonde who towers over the round diplomat. She was recently accused of assaulting someone who insulted Kissinger at an airport.

London Observer Service

as a result of Mrs. Thatcher's sweeping victory at the general election in June.

An important point emerges here. Traditionally, the Labour Party in Britain, like the Democratic Party in the United States, has been the party of the ethnic minorities and Jewish Labour MPs have stressed their identity with Jewish causes. Indeed, the British Labour Party as a whole has always had close links with the Israeli Labour Party, Mapai.

Jewish Conservative MPs on the other hand tend to stress their Englishness rather than their Jewishness and every few of them, if any at all, have any sympathy with the present right-wing Israeli government of Mr. Menachem Begin.

Just as significant has been the change on the left of British politics, where there has been an upsurge in support for the Palestinian cause and a corresponding surge of anti-Israeli feeling. This is most evident among the young and at the universities many pro-PLO groups are now run by young Jewish socialists.

Indeed, one of the few new Jewish Labour MPs to be elected in June has already made plain

his support for a PLO-controlled state on the West Bank and in the occupied Golan Strip.

So it is by no means true to say that the rise of Jewish men and women to prominence in British public life heralds a rise in sympathy for Israel against the Arabs. In fact, the opposite may be the case. The tone of much press and radio and television comment on the Middle East these days is strongly condemning of the policies of Mr. Begin's government.

But what of the official policies of Mrs. Thatcher's government? Here there is still a large question mark because there have been very few pronouncements recently about the Middle East. One that did make place was the Foreign Office's welcome for partial Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon as "the first step towards a complete withdrawal."

In fact, it seems likely that Britain under Mrs. Thatcher will steer the same course towards the Middle East as it has done in the past — that is to say it will seek to co-ordinate its efforts with those of the United States and of its European Community partners to try to achieve a negotiated peace in the Middle East.

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Farewell to arms

PERHAPS it is too late now for the warring brothers in the Bekaa Valley to accept reason and drop their arms and bury the dead. Perhaps the emotional cries of Palestinian refugees in Tripoli this week and their calls upon the Palestinian fighters to come to their senses and point their guns at Israel instead of each other, have become meaningless in front of this frenzy bloodthirst that the young fighters of Palestine have found themselves in.

The same could be said about this week's meeting of the Palestine Central Council (PCC) in Tunis and the possible emergency meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC). For, it is clear that a number of Arab governments are determined to control and reduce the size and potency of the so-called Palestinian card in the face of any future "peaceful" settlements.

It is naive on the side of PLO rebels to believe that their moves to uproot the leadership of Mr Yasser Arafat will still save the organization's unity and independence. Mr Arafat has managed all through these long and tedious years as leader of the PLO to steer the organization out of its most critical crises, and still preserve the independence of the Palestinian decision. The rebels should by now taste the bitterness of the Syrian and Libyan control and exploitation.

They should also remember that while they have been conquering the strategic holds of their brothers, Israel has again permitted Palestinian blood in Hebron and Bir Zeit to be spilled, this time not only by Israeli soldiers but also by Jewish settlers. A year ago the Israelis would have thought twice before allowing their mobs to attack unarmed students and desecrate Muslim sites in fear of PLO reprisals inside and outside Palestine. Today the men are fighting on a different front!

Do some listening, professor

IT IS sometimes enlightening to hear a visitor from abroad tell us how the Arab world and the Middle East conflict are perceived in other countries. We may sometimes have a lot to learn in that way, and can perhaps modify our behaviour to advantage.

But to hear a visitor — and a frequent one, for that matter — recite a litany of stale, hardened attitudes, and attempt to make them sound like the latest informed insights, is depressing. It makes us almost despair of ever making some people realize the truth of what we are and are trying to do.

Prof. William Griffith is admittedly well aware of geo-political realities, and applies them acutely to his analysis of the situation in the region. But the problem is that, it seems in all the 11 years he has been making his annual visits to the Middle East, his observations haven't changed a bit. To hear him talk about the realities of politics in this region, one would get a nostalgic feeling of being back in the Nixon era.

American attitudes towards the Middle East, the professor says, are shaped by perceptions of Israel. Well and good. But then, he says Israel is favoured because Americans like a "winner", and back the one who gets things done. If this is the case, what happened to the old excuse for supporting Israel — that she was an underdog surrounded by murderous Arab regimes?

Prof. Griffith perpetuates the old cultural fallacy when he says the Israelis are such successful lobbyists in the United States because the Jews are well-educated, articulate and their society and values are harmonious with those of America. Why doesn't he just go ahead and say aloud the unspoken obverse of this statement — that the Arabs are shiftless, greedy and ignorant, and will never count for much?

The professor sees the Middle East conflict in the context of the broader American-Soviet rivalry. But he says that soon the Soviet Union won't have much to say because it will be swept away by the microchip revolution. Possible — but unlikely, we think.

The professor favours American pressure on Israel to achieve its withdrawal from the occupied West Bank. But he says the point of no return for dismantling settlements is very near, if not already passed. It seems in that case, he is telling the Arabs to turn in their rapiers, shake hands and say "well, we've lost. It was a good game while it lasted."

Professor Griffith is used to giving the Middle East the picture as it's seen back home. We suggest that next time, along with his talking, he does some listening.



Refuting a visitor's experience

To the editor:

I was surprised when I read in The Star (13 July), a letter by Iman Afify who was obviously blinded by hatred. I do believe in freedom of press and expressing one's opinion but such things should not pass unnoticed.

I would like to tell Iman Mohammed Afify, ironically the name sounds very Arabic, that despite her amazing pride in America for which she should be awarded a medal that she has grasped the wrong end of the situation. This is not America but Jordan; a poor but modest and generous nation. You blame — and sometimes attack — foreigners in the US for not going with the American way of life, especially when you say "when in Rome do like the Romans". I am afraid you will have to dress somehow decently and behave in a proper manner that is the way we happily and willingly lead our lives.

I'm not so keen on the idea that the article which triggered your emotions to blow in such a manner was faked, but I'm quite sure that you had your imagination moving about in a most confusing manner when you claimed — so innocently — that your property was stolen from the Manzil (students house) with the most astonishing accusation of not being allowed to lock your room. The simplest solution, if that was true would have been to keep your belongings in your closet. Logical isn't it?

With such a high crime rate in the US, I don't think you can walk about at any time of the day or night without the fear of being mugged or attacked. But I can say that you are lucky (despite the way you claim people stared, pointed or laughed at you) that you fell here what it is like to be safe.

I'm afraid that every where you go there are those few who give a country a bad name — even in the US — and I'm totally convinced that unfortunately you have mingled around with the wrong people.

But anyway, better luck in your trip back to your beloved America, a feeling I'm sure is shared by many Americans, who feel quite the opposite of what you seem to have suffered in Jordan.

In any case, Jordan will remain the land of ahl al-waslah. We love it and we are proud of it and of being what we are.

Despite everything, you are welcome to come over again, and let's hope you'll have better luck this time.

Muhammad Hammed
 Radio Jordan
 Box 909 — Amman

The Hedjaz line is not antiquity

To the editor:

In the beginning of this century the Ottoman Empire built the railway which connected Istanbul in the north to the Hedjaz in the south. A great part of this railway passes through Jordan. But as we approach the year 2000 it looks like this line will join other objects of the ancient past.

The point which I want to stress is that if Turkey thought of using this line as a means of transportation why can't we? Until now the railway is still considered to be a lively method of transportation in all the countries of the world thus connecting towns with cities and countries with each other.

Our country is in a massive need of this kind of transportation to solve the problems of heavy traffic on the main roads especially where it concerns the efficiency of our food and other supply routes.

All Mansour
 Jordan University
 Amman

Kamel
 Abu
 Jaber



Arab peace: Can it work?

Part II

THE ARAB plan for peace is simple one based on the recognition of the territorial status quo before the 1967 war. It only seeks the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces from the West Bank, including Arab Jerusalem, and from Gaza and the Golan Heights as well. It does not demand a return to the Partition Plan of 1947; and in accordance with the decision of the Arab Summit at Rabat, the present Arab cause for peace demands the recognition of the right of the Palestinians to self-determination under the leadership of the PLO their sole legitimate representative, with the establishment of a state of their own in the West Bank and Gaza. No Palestinian or Arab leader can accept less than that.

Today the Palestinians continue to live either scattered throughout the world refugees in some Arab countries, or under the harsh Israeli military occupation in the West Bank and Gaza, in which their life is most severe. In contradiction of the most basic human rights, or the Geneva conventions that protect civilians under military occupation, they are subjected to a very harsh existence. The catalogue of the indignities, cruelties and injustices they suffer is too long to be listed here. Suffice it to say they are neither treated nor regarded as human beings. Their houses can be blown up for the merest suspicion, their civic leaders maimed, exiled or imprisoned under very harsh conditions. They see foreigners living in their homes, walking their streets and tilling their land with no law to protect them from the very efficient and very cruel Israeli military rule. Increasingly, they are forced to live in small enclaves surrounded by Israeli settlements, always strongly controlled by the ever present very vigilant Israeli authorities. By 1983, Israel established 191 new settlements in the occupied territories against the rule of law, international or municipal, and in violation of the Geneva Conventions, United Nations resolutions and world public opinion.

In their own land, the Palestinians are made to live in fear and terror. They never know when, where or how they will be struck. Elsewhere, they continue to cling to their dream of returning home, of peace and of having their own identity. In most places, they continue to live as suspects not because they have done anything wrong, but simply because they are Palestinians. Though they are educated, efficient, hard working and ambitious, they continue to live at the sufferance of someone else. Living in constant fear, they know little peace of mind, always wondering what is to happen to them next. And being so adaptable and proud, they cannot let go of the struggle for Palestine and their search for peace and justice. Their biggest fear now, indeed their greatest fear, is that the Israelis will not withdraw from Lebanon and will eventually annex the West Bank and Gaza, like they annexed Jerusalem and the Golan Heights. For only last month, June 1983, the Israeli government announced the formation of a very high level committee to "study" the possibility of applying Israeli "law" to the West Bank and Gaza.

Israeli creeping annexation and illegal actions

1. 191 Israeli settlements established between 1967-1983
2. 12-15 per cent value added tax imposed by Israel on occupied lands
3. 488 Arab villages and towns demolished by Israel between 1948-1983
4. 48,241 Arab houses demolished by Israel between 1948-1983
5. 84 per cent of the lands of Jerusalem confiscated by Israel since 1967
6. 25 per cent decline of Arab inhabitants of Jerusalem since 1967
7. 27 per cent of West Bank lands confiscated since 1967
8. 33 per cent of Gaza lands confiscated since 1967.

The Third World's economic dilemma

SO FAR the world economic system has proved to be structurally, institutionally and evolutionarily deficient and impotent. The fact that the US has figured as the leader of the developed countries, holding the dominant part within the system, has done harm both to the members of the rich north side and to the developing countries of the Third World, the underdogs of the system.

The "floating" system of currency based upon the American dollar has resulted in unpredictable fluctuations of high rises and low declines which the currencies of America's allies have to suffer from. This means that in the present crisis of world recession no limit to financial conflicts and contradictions among the leading participants in World economic can be imagined.

The picture of economy in the Third World looks even more gloomy. In addition to the instability and unpredictability of money value, whether local or in the form of hard currency, the finances of the developing countries suffer from constant deficit caused by the imbalance between their imports and exports. Consequently they have to cover these deficits through the aid they get from developed countries in form of official grants, loans and international funds' aids.

But the instability of hard currency has obliged the lenders and donors to confine their help to short-term solutions, which do not radically solve long-term deficit problems. Only very recently did the Guardian, 18 July, talk about the suspicious ways through which the IMF International Monetary Fund carries its deals with some countries of the Third World. The Guardian cited the example of Brazil, whose debts, like those of Mexico and Argentina (according to South magazine April 1983) have multiplied six folds over one decade. Brazil, which now has a deficit of \$90,000 million, has adopted a strategy of austerity measures and has recently witnessed violent riots and demonstrations against these measures.

According to President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria (in his statement to the 35th session of the UN General Assembly, Autumn of 1980): "The crisis in World economy is wreaking havoc in Africa. For most Africa, the ongoing negotiations between South and North are about survival itself."

Next to the worries of the Third World countries about their loans from the developing countries, comes the question of agricultural development. If even the middle-developed countries, like Brazil, have huge deficits, it

By Henry Matar

means that other countries lower on the scale are far worse. How can they then secure money for technological development of agriculture? Far from it, they have to cut down on currently produced crops and are forced to import processed foods from the developed countries. Even, here, as in their trade with the West, in general, they have to secure hard currency for the invisible trade costs of shipping, insurance and commission.

The importation of foods on part of the developing countries, therefore, creates a paradox which the UN 1980 publication, "Towards a World Economy that Works" puts forward as follows: "The cost of imported food on local markets is high enough to prevent local consumers from satisfying their needs and low enough to discourage local farmers from competing with it and expanding their production."

Developing countries still export such commodities as bananas, beef, coffee, cocoa, citrus foods, cotton, jute, rubber, tea, sugar, tobacco, vegetable oils and oil seeds, but the export prices of these commodities have not kept pace with the prices of food grains which developing countries import from a few developed countries, adds about the suspicious ways through which the IMF International Monetary Fund carries its deals with some countries of the Third World. The Guardian cited the example of Brazil, whose debts, like those of Mexico and Argentina (according to South magazine April 1983) have multiplied six folds over one decade. Brazil, which now has a deficit of \$90,000 million, has adopted a strategy of austerity measures and has recently witnessed violent riots and demonstrations against these measures.

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Memorandum

By Osama El-Sherif

The romantic Arab

IT SEEMS that there are still a number of Westerners, even well-informed ones, who refuse to view the Arab world and its people in a modern 20th century context. The real Arabs to them, are the desert nomads, hostage to their harsh environment and who are romantic lovers and warmongers.

It is true that we still look at our history through the same distorted spectacles, but our contemporary outlook towards ourselves and our future is very much detached from this romantic legend.

What is ironic is that although most of those Westerners admit that their favourite perception of Arabs is well built on unelated tales of adventures, heroism and in many cases brutality of the desert nomad, they still reject the present panoramic scene of the Arab world and prefer to trade reality for romance.

The desert, of course, remains an important factor in the mentality of the Arabs of today. For many, it is a symbol of the heroic and serious masculine qualities that many young Arabs aspire for. It is part of God's image: His wrath, wisdom, strength and reward. But in the end no one would prefer a stark desert in a cool oasis with fresh water and reliable fruits.

A good part of this unrealistic image of the Arab as a person who would accept a difficult way of life than an easy one without any angle, was created by 19th century Orientalists who travelled through these parts looking for the

personification of the "unearthly" tales they had heard about our ancestors and their desert. Unfortunately the picture these travellers illustrated in their books and paintings stuck to the minds of Europeans and survived until today.

Early this century Rudolph Valentino's film "The Sheik" and "The Son of the Sheik" portrayed how this fake perception of the Arabs was used to sell tickets and to express some hidden and "sinful" fantasies the American society, especially the women, had at that time. Later on, many other films and books attempted to treat the Arabs on the basis of the Orientalist's view.

It is not only the Arab world that has fallen victim to the West's ignorance of its true image, problems and needs. China, black Africa and South Asia still suffer from this Western Syndrome. It will take some time for the West to fully understand such cultures and learn to accept them as they are now and not within fixed rules and laws which are based on best sellers and Oscar winning films.

The Arab world should consider this dangerous problem as one of its most important that requires bold and scientific methods in order to be solved and done with. The heavy burden lies on the back of our immature yet ageing media. It is immature in terms of its methods and remedies and ageing in that it is still designed to serve ancient goals of fooling the masses, manipulating the leaders and ignoring the world. If anyone should be blamed for the still-rampant romantic vision of the Arabs in the West it is us and not anyone else.

Tourist's handbook to souvenir shopping in Amman

ONE CONSEQUENCE of the growth of tourism in Jordan is that objects which once were worthy of scant regard as everyday household items have become "antiques" — and expensive ones. Objects such as coffee pots and grinders, copper pans and rugs are sold to visitors at a whopping profit in some of the places frequented by tourists; but it is still possible to obtain much lower prices if one goes to the right place.

Many things which are actually made to be sold as souvenirs also fluctuate greatly in price. In general, the newer the area of town in which one buys, it, more it will cost.

As an example of arbitrary pricing, one hotel gift shop in Amman charged JD 2,500 for a silver plated spoon. Another hotel shop not far away sold an indistinguishable product for only JD 1 — and a third, still in the same area of town, for only JD 1.

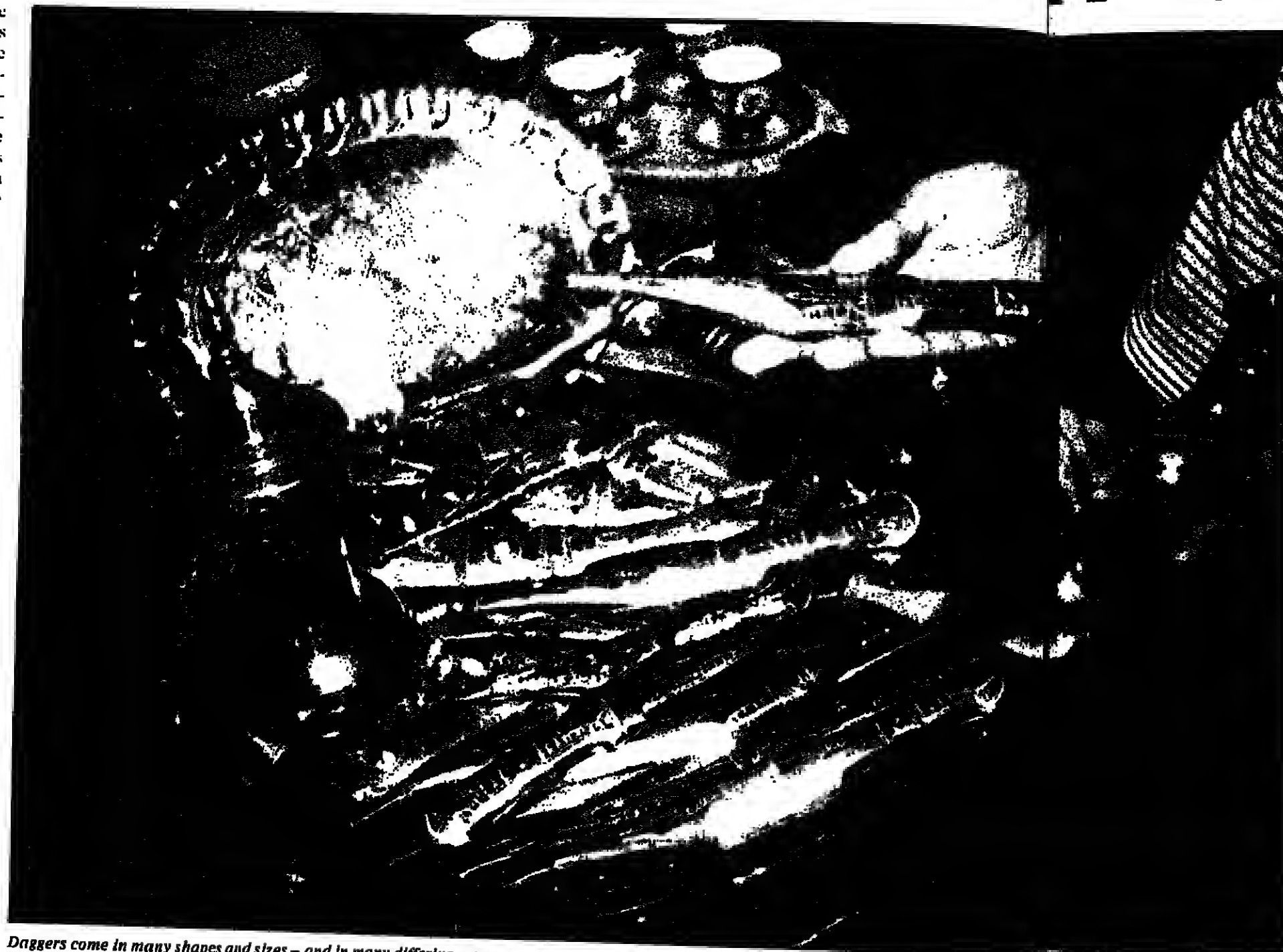
When browsing in a gift shop which seems to charge too much, it is advisable to note down the price, shape and size of any souvenir one would like to purchase. Then one can head to downtown Amman, where the stores and bazaars generally have much more reasonable prices. By comparing the workmanship and the prices, you will get an idea whether or not your first choice is worth the money.

For a medium-size book cover decorated with mother of pearl and an elegant holy book, Bible or Quran, one hotel shop charged JD 75 and another one charged JD 100, whereas a store downtown charged JD 55 for a similar product.

Even if you don't intend to buy anything, going to the bazaars downtown is an adventure in itself. Looking at what they have, and by poking through each shelf and corner is an educational and enjoyable experience.

Some bazaars are found near the Grand Hussein Mosque in the centre of downtown Amman. Starting from downtown's main street (Prince Mohammad Street) with the fountains in the middle, walk straight down, keeping on the right-hand side of the street until you spot the mosque straight ahead. Hold the right and let the sidewalk lead you on until you are just across the street from the mosque.

Turn right, and a little bit further on the same side of the street is Al-Afani Bazaar, which has a wide collection of wooden statuettes, ceramics, mother of pearl, Persian rugs, traditional dresses, old and new silver copper pots and dishes of all kinds



Daggers come in many shapes and sizes — and in many differing degrees of age and authenticity

and sizes, each article with a price tag attached.

Another good place to visit is the Khan Al-Khalil. Cross the street from Al-Afani Bazaar and keep on in the same direction as before, with the mosque behind you. Counting the streets leading off to the left, turn into the fifth one. Halfway along the street, on your right, is a narrow entrance to an indoor area in which there are several small bazaars that have lovely brass and copper coffee pots, plates, dishes, pots and figurines.

Glossy and colourful ceramic jugs, cups and vases can also be found there. The owner of the ceramic factory in Hebron has recently opened a bazaar in this area the first one on your right. A painted ceramic jug there is sold for JD 2, whereas in one of Amman's hotels, a similar jug is sold for JD 5. A carved wooden camel for which one hotel bazaar charged JD 7, costs JD 2,500.

If you are a lover of old pottery and copper pots, go to the last bazaar of the indoor souq. A flight of stairs will lead you down to a huge basement full of old water jugs, large copper pots and anti-

ques of all sorts at prices that range from JD 10-30, according to size. Chessboards, cups and trays made of marble can be found there, in addition to old traditional dresses and Persian rugs.

The musty smell of the basement bazaar is one of the consequences of a flood the winter season sent. Another of the consequences is that most of the souvenirs need thorough cleaning and polishing.

Jordan Souvenirs, next door to the Jordan Restaurant (across the street from the main downtown post office), has a lovely collection of mother of pearl and wooden figurines, and the prices here are a little lower than those of hotel bazaars.

When at a bazaar, never hesitate to bargain over prices, for half the fun in purchasing souvenirs is to do some bargaining. Bazaar owners even expect their customers to haggle. One admitted to adding a couple of dinars to the price he intends to charge. After some bargaining, the mentioned price is lowered to the one he originally had in mind and the result is "a satisfied customer and a happy dealer."



Carved olive-wood camels like this one are made exclusively for tourists

With so many souvenir and antique shops around, the tourist in Jordan might be forgiven for feeling a bit confused. The shops downtown — and better yet the old bazaars — offer savings and quality as these stories by Kathy Kakish with pictures by Osama El-Sherif will show.

The genuine article



A discerning eye can distinguish the best inlaid mother-of-pearl box

HOW DOES one choose the highest quality mother-of-pearl souvenirs? There are three types, some genuine and some imitation. Quality depends on the purity of the substance taken out of the original shells, and on the craftsmanship.

The best type has a shiny, bluish glow to it when looked at in a strong light. The more shiny hues appear under strong light the better the material is, and consequently, the more expensive it will be, probably also because the craftsmanship is good. Souvenirs made out of genuine, pure mother of pearl are sturdy and firm, and the pieces are neatly fixed together not with glue, but by a pearly substance derived from the material.

The second type has a less lively look, with telltale marks of

glue showing between slightly crooked shell pieces. This often comes along with imprecise and awkward woodworking, and the price is lower.

The lowest quality is a plastic imitation of mother of pearl. It has a dull appearance that lacks the beautiful mixture of colours and carvings in the best craftsmanship. The pieces in an inlay are fixed at slightly crooked angles.

Another hint: to distinguish a genuine Persian rug from imitation, roll up a corner tightly to see whether it rolls softly, like clothing material. Naturally, the back stitching of original old Persian rugs will not have the plastic-like polyester threads of 20th century rugs. The thread dyes will also be colourfast, not spreading and staining other colours.



And then, from across the room, their eyes met

The Far Side

By Gary Larson



Late again! ... This better be good!

VIEWPOINT

The irony of Hebron's agony

By Ya'acoub Jaber

THE SERIES of events in the occupied West Bank city of Hebron in the past few weeks suggests that they are part of a pre-mediated plan designed to make life unbearable for the city's indigenous Palestinian population. Both the killers of the Israeli student, Alaron Gross, and the attackers of the Islamic University in Hebron will never be identified, simply because in both cases the culprits were the same.

The final aim of the Hebron campaign is to force as many as possible of the city's Arab population to depart, leaving their place to Jewish settlers flocking from all corners of the globe — often with double citizenship, like the notorious American Rabbi Meir Kahane who moves freely between New York and Tel Aviv, preaching the killing of Arabs as a legal and justified action.

Many signs indicate that the campaign is being launched in full collaboration between the settlers and Menachem Begin's government. Israeli officials sometimes tend to confirm this assessment.

Israeli Deputy Premier David Levy said publicly in a recent interview that Israel had missed a golden chance by not driving 300,000 Palestinians from the West Bank during the 1967 war. It seems that the last chance is being made up for through a systematic, gradual process which has accelerated in recent months, taking advantage of certain regional and international developments.

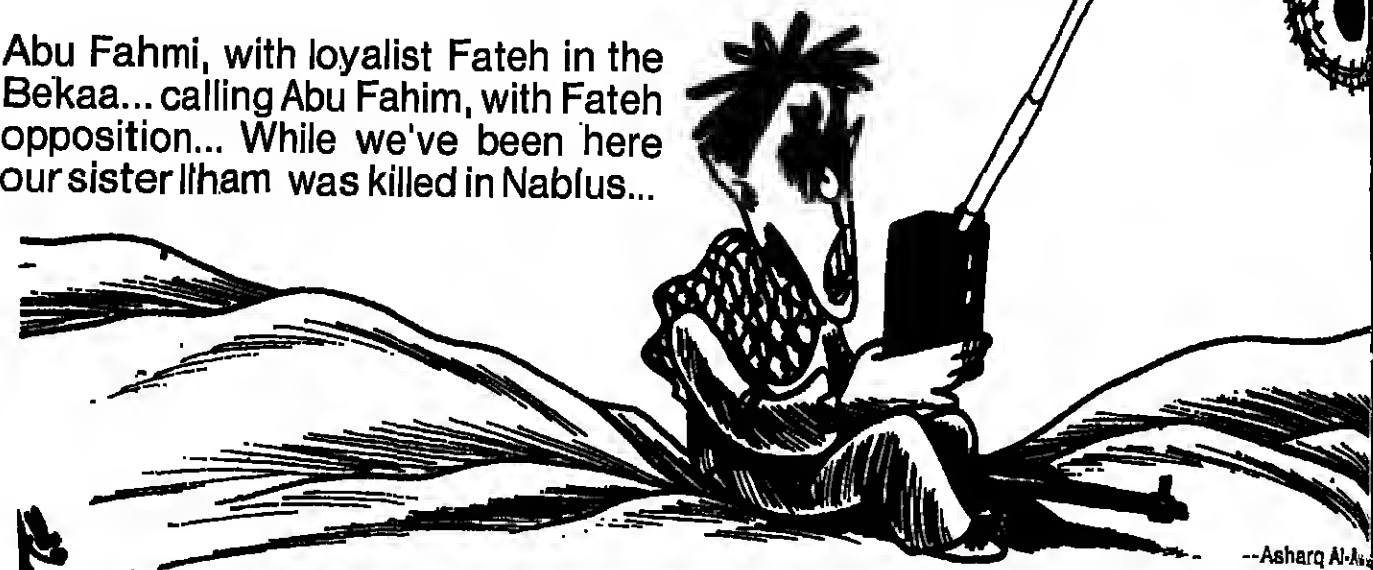
The focus on Lebanon, inter-Arab disputes and the PLO crisis have all combined to shift attention from the mounting agony of Palestinians under occupation. In addition, President Reagan's administration has shown little or no concern about human rights violations in the world, except within a narrow context of serving US political and publicity objectives.

Some international organizations concerned with humanitarian questions have failed, for reasons unknown, to give proper attention to the plight of West Bank and Gaza Palestinians. Amnesty International's reports speak at length about oppression in Poland, El Salvador or Argentina, but never mention the torture of Palestinians in Israeli jails or the atrocities of the Israeli occupation against a defenceless population.

The attack on Palestinian students in Hebron last week and the cold-blooded shooting of a 16-year-old girl in Nabulus the next day would have caused a major uproar in the West had they happened, for instance, in Poland.

The irony is that there might be some irony to all this, as the Arabs and Palestinians will finally come to the conclusion that they must take the matter into their hands and stop looking around for help.

Abu Fahmi, with loyalist Fateh in the Bekaa... calling Abu Fahim, with Fateh opposition... While we've been here our sister Itham was killed in Nabulus...



—Ashraf Al-Jabari

Middle East: Political Outlook

THE LATEST violence in the occupied West Bank city of Hebron, as well as the situation in Lebanon and the PLO crisis, continue to be the main topics in this week's Arabic press editorials.

Most Arab newspapers react furiously to the Islamic University massacre in Hebron, and warn that continued Arab resistance will encourage the Zionists to commit more crimes.

Al-Ittihad of Abu Dhabi calls for a firm and decisive common Arab stand based on a joint military and political strategy, in order to rid the Palestinians of their ruthless Israeli oppressors. It says the first step in this strategy is to extend all forms of resistance to Palestinians in the occupied territory, to boost their morale and enhance their ability to resist.

"A strategy such as this is becoming a must, not only for the sake of Palestinians but also for the pan-Arab future and very existence," writes Al-Ittihad.

US is responsible
Al-Khalaf newspaper of Sharjah criticizes the United States cannot be exonerated of its responsibility for the Hebron massacres, and other crimes perpetrated against the defenceless West Bank and Gaza Palestinians.

"No one can any longer call for reaching an understanding with Israel, or let the United States go free of its responsibility for the killing of Arabs and occupation of their lands with US-made weapons and American money," the paper says.

It goes on to say that Israeli crimes in Palestine and Lebanon give fresh evidence that the Arab-Israeli conflict is not a dispute over borders, but rather over existence.

The English-language Qatari Gulf Times writes that UN Security Council resolutions will not save one Palestinian from being killed or expelled from his homeland.

"Despite the uselessness of the council's resolutions, the United States is always ready to veto any decision which blames or criticises Israel," says the paper.

It concludes by calling on other countries, especially Islamic and non-aligned states, to find a way to overcome the obstacles blocking the implementation of the UN resolutions.

The Cairo newspaper Al-Ahram predicts that Israel will soon formally annex the West Bank and Gaza, seizing the opportunity, presented by inter-Arab fighting and conflicts, to say that after the annexation, Israel will turn to

another Arab people for further expansion and aggression.

"The continuation of disputes among Arabs gives Israel the chance to go ahead with its expansionist policies," concludes Al-Ahram.

Al-Bayan newspaper of Dubai expresses confidence that the Israeli terrorism against West Bank Palestinians will not force them to leave their homes and lands; but on the contrary will enhance their steadfastness and determination to resist the Israeli designs.

"What is most painful," Al-Bayan adds, "is that the escalation of Israeli terrorism has not prompted Arab states to live up to their historic responsibilities and rise to the level of the Zionist challenge," the paper says.

Several Israeli papers are also preoccupied with the Hebron events. Al-Hamishmar says that the seriousness of the Hebron crime is that it has not been sufficiently absorbed by many categories of the Israeli public. "Using arms against Arabs has become a habit by Jewish settlers. The responsibility falls on the government because of its extreme and militant policy," the paper says.

Haofan Hazeel writes: "There aren't sufficient words to condemn the filthy crime which was committed at the Islamic University in Hebron. Condemnation does not restore life to the dead, and does not heal the wounds of the injured. Calming the aroused crowds is not enough."

"Only the apprehension of the criminals will cool the situation. We, the Israelis, demand to see the criminals arrested."

But Haeretiz adds, "Will the security forces live up to the level of expectation? We fear we will have to wait for years before the criminals are discovered! Have we forgotten about the attempts on the lives of West Bank mayors three years ago?"

Kotereit Rashid, another Israeli paper, comments that the latest Israeli invention is to impose a curfew on Arabs only, and provide Jewish settlers with the opportunity to set fire to the Hebron market. "It is only a few days after the incident that we hear settlers claim the market site for themselves. The question we must ask is: Is the uprisings in the Islamic University also meant to further Jewish claims in the heart of Hebron?"

On Lebanon, Arab newspapers in general have criticised the US support for Israel's partial withdrawal plan.

The Qatari newspaper Al-Arab writes that this US support discloses a new the dangerous role of the American administration in backing the Israeli expansionist plans.

"The US since is a blow to Lebanese legitimacy, and it pinpoints the seriousness of the American-Israeli alliance which is directed against pan-Arab interests," the paper asserts.

It also expresses the view that the US support for the Israeli partial pull-back means that Washington backs continued Israeli occupation of South Lebanon.

Israel's Maeriv writes: "We do not understand what the Americans want for Lebanon. They object to redeployment while Lebanese sovereignty over the Lebanese territory has not been secured."

"Now we hear Americans feel satisfied because the Israeli stand has become more lenient and there is a possibility of total Israeli withdrawal as scheduled by the agreement."

"Does the United States want the Israeli army out of Lebanon even if the Syrian army stays there?"

On the mission of the new US Middle East envoy, Mr. Robert McFarlane, most newspapers express scepticism over his prospects for success.

Al-Khalaf newspaper notes that the new envoy represents a fixed, dated policy and will not differ from previous American envoys except perhaps in tactics.

Al-Khalaf newspaper notes that the new envoy represents a fixed, dated policy and will not differ from previous American envoys except perhaps in tactics.

It adds that the Arabs alone can force a shift in US policies once they make up their minds to do so.

A Saudi newspaper, Al-Madina, says that it is too early to evaluate the chances of Mr. McFarlane's successor. It expresses the hope that the new envoy will achieve what his predecessor, Philip Habib, had failed to accomplish.

Another Saudi newspaper, Al-Jazeera, says that the success of Mr. McFarlane's mission will largely depend on the attitude of the Lebanese government.

"The policies of the Lebanese president may prompt the US and other powers to reconsider their positions on the Lebanese crisis, which is getting more and more difficult each day," Al-Jazeera writes.

Ad-Dustour newspaper in Amman comments on His Majesty King Hus-

sein's visit to Saudi Arabia, saying King's talks with the Saudi grip paramount significance because the present serious circumstances of the Arab region.

Noting that King Hussein has contributed the problems facing the world to Arab differences, it goes on to say that working out a common strategy must have given priority to the two leaders.

Ad-Dustour asserts that the confronting the Arabs can come only by a unified Arab and a common effort to foil enemies' schemes.

On the mission of Mr. Robert McFarlane, Al-Rai newspaper says the US envoy has chosen Beirut first stop to show that the administration is giving top priority to the question of foreign troops withdrawal from Lebanon.

"But Lebanon certainly needs more than a show of interest. It needs real steps fulfilling the promises of President Reagan's administration in President Gornoyel's visit to the United States," Al-Rai marks.

Israeli elections

Israel's Davar writes that the advancement of the election date makes no difference as far as the government's performance is concerned. The opposition is already far enough in order to replace the abortive government, it says.

"It is now quite difficult to see economic, political and security problems — but how about two months of problem accumulation? Is a nationalist duty by the public to open their eyes and abandon the Likud government?"

Yediot Ahronot says the Likud arena is filled with pessimism and expectations such as a new election date, the escalating crisis, the rejection of the proposal of military presence in Lebanon, the growth of the movement of the military service in Lebanon.

All of this has not seemed to encourage the leaders of Israel to change their attitude. Instead of withdrawal they are speaking of partial withdrawal, instead of an end to the settlement policy, emphasis is put on the construction of Jewish quarter in Hebron, and intransigence towards the Palestinians," the Israeli paper

Author of 'The Zionist Connection':

'The UN must carry out the rest of the partition plan'

By Carrie Nelle Thompson
Star Geneva Correspondent

GENEVA — Noted anti-Zionist Jewish author Dr. Alfred M. Lilienthal on a recent trip to Geneva said, as he did in his 1949 controversial article "Israel's Flag is not Mine" (and in various subsequent books), "the establishment of a Zionist state was a mistake and deprives the indigenous population of their rights."

He added that he does not want to "throw Israel into the sea" but he wants "the UN to carry out the rest of its 1947 resolution and establish a Palestinian state."

In order to do this, Dr. Lilienthal said Arabs must join together and "galvanize all forces at hand."

Dr. Lilienthal said there are some "honest" firms in the United States which could capitalize on both positive and negative aspects of the Arab — Israeli situation and give the west — especially the United States — a better understanding of the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular.

On the positive side he said the many resolutions of the UN Security Council should be stressed, plus the records within the Security Council showing the adherence of peace measures by the Palestinians. Further, "They should show the excellent record of the Arab — Muslim world in its treatment of Jews — their cousin culture — throughout the centuries. "The world must judge the Arab in that context and not as being anti-semitic," he said.

Dr Hisham Sharabi:

Israeli invasion: Example of 'cultural genocide'

Dr. Hisham Sharabi is professor of Intellectual history at Georgetown University in Washington. He is also a founder of the Institute of Palestine Studies (which along with the Palestine Research Centre was ransacked by Israeli soldiers). In the following interview with Star Washington correspondent Abdulaziz Messarrah, Dr. Sharabi speaks about the extent and significance of the damage.

Question: What were the Israelis' aims?
Answer: There is no doubt in my mind that the Israelis intended to destroy not only the military infrastructure of the Palestinians in Lebanon, but also the social and cultural infrastructure. The information we have about the extent of the destruction of Palestinian institutions in Beirut, which were once the centre of Palestinian life, indicates that this was the main goal of the Israeli entry into Beirut following the evacuation of the Palestinian fighters.

In a few weeks in Lebanon, the Israelis had destroyed the entire school system of the Palestinians, from nursery schools and kindergartens to vocational institutes and even to university level. This is a clear example of "cultural genocide." They also destroyed the clinics, hospitals and other facilities of the Palestine Red Crescent Society. The Israelis looted hospitals, carried away equipment and destroyed furniture. According to an Israeli spokesman, 100 trucks a day, packed with this kind of booty, have been dispatched to Israel.

Also destroyed were printing presses, the offices of the literary Palestinian magazine, Al-Karmel, the offices of Palestinian al-Thawra newspaper, the radio station and, of course, the Research Centre. According to Dr. Sabri Jiryis, director of the Centre, the Israelis took the entire library of about 25,000 books, as well as the archives and the documentation library.

In addition, they destroyed the very important social and economic institutions of Samed Industries, which included workshops, laboratories and small factories employing hundreds of thousands of Palestinian workers. Nothing is left of that. The net result is that a Palestinian community which, until a few months ago, was a vital and cohesive society, is now reduced to a defenceless group of refugees.

Q: Have the educational achievements of the Palestinian people around the world been considered as a threat to the Zionists, and might this be the motive for what the Israelis did in Beirut?

The Arabs need to join forces to stop Israel

Dr. Lilienthal commented on how ironic it is that Arabs often find themselves being defensive about charges of being "anti-semitic" when indeed they, themselves, are semites.

On the negative side, he said the public must be shown that continual misuse "by all media" of the Holocaust has become a "strangling force" which has covered all other subsequent experiences. While acknowledging the horror of the Holocaust, he feels it is used to justify all actions of the Zionist movement. "It acts as a cover-up for all else". According to him, even the memories of such horrors as Sabra and Shatila "are being slowly whittled away by Zionist propaganda."

Dr. Lilienthal said if no Palestinian state is established "definitely war will follow." Israel will annex the West Bank and Gaza and the ensuing fighting will be the worst in history. He said Jewish and Arab states could live together if such an arrangement is supported by the UN, US and Soviet Union.

"Both sides would have to be demilitarized," he added. "Each state should then allow the settlements that are present to remain but all inhabitants must be treated equally."

"In Judaism there is equality of all people; in Zionism there is not. Israel is not a democracy; there is only exclusivity. In Israel there are first class citizens (Western Jews), second class citizens (Oriental Jews) and third class citizens (Arabs)," he said.

Dr. Lilienthal has attempted to get the Arab world to join forces in the past to promote good public relations. He said much can be done by various ministers of information and foreign ministries. But "many Arab states hesitate to take action. Two years ago I was meeting with six Arab ministers but they said they didn't want to get involved," he said.

Saudi Arabia could be the most helpful for they have the money, the influence over other Gulf states and a good relationship with the US.

But he added that the Saudis are "the most conservative people in the world, and unfortunately they are influenced by the American businessmen rather than the other way around."

Dr. Lilienthal said a concerted effort by the Arabs could stop what he calls "the rape of the US by Israel." "Israel doesn't listen to anybody. Every four years they get the great golden state of the presidential campaign when the Jewish lobby



Dr. Lilienthal

in the US greatly influences the election outcome."

When questioned about Mr. Yasser Arafat, Dr. Lilienthal said Arafat should remain the leader of the PLO and that, if not, "it would be a tragedy for the PLO, the Arab world and the US because we'll see unparalleled terror and fighting."

He continued that if Arafat died naturally "there is no preparation for a successor, just as is the case in many Arab regimes. There is such rampant individualism in Arabs. Look at Nasser. He kept having different number-two men and Sadat snuck in. Arafat's death would not kill the Palestinian movement but it would delay it by 25 years."



Dr. Hisham Sharabi

Increase its acquisitions on Palestinian history is another matter altogether. There you have a university engaged in the legitimate collection of books and course material on any given topic; one cannot say anything about that. But the overall campaign, the campaign of destruction, is unmistakable in its purpose.

New Austrian chancellor speaks out on the Middle East

Editor's note: The following excerpts are from an interview granted by Austrian Chancellor Sinowatz to the Vienna daily Arbeiterzeitung.

Question: Your predecessor, Dr. Kreisky, with the Middle East policy Austria pursued under him for many years has left you a weighty inheritance: our country's great prestige in the Arab world but at the same time hostility on the part of the Israeli government and of a large part of the Israeli public. What will you do with this inheritance?

Answer: Bruno Kreisky is a man who had accumulated a large amount of very detailed knowledge of the Middle East situation and who therefore has a profound understanding of the situation in the Middle East. Hence in this respect Bruno Kreisky's personality is irreplaceable.

But as regards the basic line of our foreign policy, in the Middle East question, too, there will be the highest measure of continuity. This is in accord with our country's interests but also with the traditional sympathy Social De-

mocrats have always felt for oppressed and persecuted nations.

Q: The Israeli government has reacted with great hostility to this policy over the last few years. Doesn't that enter into your considerations?

A: It is true that the Israeli government has sometimes criticised our policy very sharply, but one must also say that it certainly also met with understanding among many people in Israel. There are indeed many who understand that oppression of another nation is not a solution, that this is not the way to peace.

Q: What do you think should such a peaceful solution in the Middle East look like? What steps should be taken now? What could Austria do in this direction?

A: I have here on my desk the Foreign Policy Report of 1979. It says that in Austria's view a

solution to the crisis in the Middle East is only possible through a policy which recognises four facts:

- (1) Israel is a reality and, like any other state, has a right to recognition and secure borders.
- (2) The Palestinian people are also a reality, and like any other nation they have national rights which must be respected.
- (3) The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is generally recognised by the Palestinians as their representative body. Hence whoever wants to talk to the Palestinians has to talk to the PLO. And I may add that this is true regardless of who may be the leaders of that organisation. You cannot pick your own partners in such talks, and only the Palestinians themselves can decide who is to speak for them.
- (4) Force cannot and must not be a means for the legitimate acquisition of territories, and this means that Israel must withdraw from the occupied areas.

Meeting the challenge of the university

By Ahmad Al-Anani

Special to the Star

A FEW weeks ago I was brought to lengthy contemplation on the controversial affair of the quantitative extension of university education in Jordan. It was occasioned by a letter received from Dr. Ali Mahdallah, Deputy-President of Mo'ta University requesting certain volumes for the library of the newly born university.

I was gratified to learn that as a member of the university presents an entire qualitative dimension from that of Jordan University, so does Mo'ta University stand for a different set of aims.

I believe it is still imperative though that Jordan's university students be warned against any presumption that university education means security against misery or unemployment.

It is true that Jordan has accomplished much in the educational sector but this by no means outshines the fact that thousands of Jordanian nationals live as expatriates throughout the world. Most of these are post-graduates who cost their country dearly to acquire their distinctive training. And there is no sign that this phenomenon is on way to vanish, on the contrary, more brains are on the go to reach where in the world in search of better living and further chances of higher and more proper training.

It becomes very profitable to question the wisdom of the expansion of university education in the country and the augmenting role of departing students.

Considering that Jordan's development since the early sixties was carried out in accordance with well-studied plans covering all fields of economic and social development, one must wonder why Jordan's economy has been unable to absorb larger numbers of post-graduates.

I would personally ascribe a good percentage of the responsibility to Jordan's educational system. We must admit that we lacked sufficient courage and foresight in planning the educational sector. There was little room left for higher tech-

nic training schools during the fifties and sixties. It was good that during the late seventies we started practical steps to bridge that gap. Until then we were so tempted by the lure of "numbers" of university graduates that we found out only late that we had fewer nurses than doctors and fewer technicians than engineers.

It is not felicitous, however, that something deeper in the very idea of education has not been achieved by the accumulation of a red ribbon of educational system as a whole. It is the misleading and deeply-rooted belief that higher education is anything more than a means rather than an aim in itself and that any individual is free to select the kind of education or training he thinks most suitable for his future career that leads to problems. Nobody should henceforth be left to assume that the attainment of a higher degree automatically places on the shoulders of the state or anybody else the guarantee of suitable employment. It must be the responsibility of every individual to plan for himself in the light of a realistic assessment of the country's future needs in each category of trades and callings.

Meanwhile I believe that the criteria on which the establishment of Mo'ta University was based are really sound and to the point. The university ought to bring the attention of many other Arab countries which stand in dire need for highly educational officers for civil and military purposes.

It is a historical fact since the days of the Umayyads, southern Jordan has been a rich source for the recruitment of distinguished military personnel.

On the whole there is every reason to believe that Jordan is in the process of bringing to educational system a fresh and more-enlightened approach to the various basic facts of the country and its future requirements in military, economic and social fields. Let us hope that through the sincere and strenuous efforts of its people, Jordan shall maintain its all-important role as a pilot state in the Middle East for development.

France reforms schools

By Ousseynou Diop

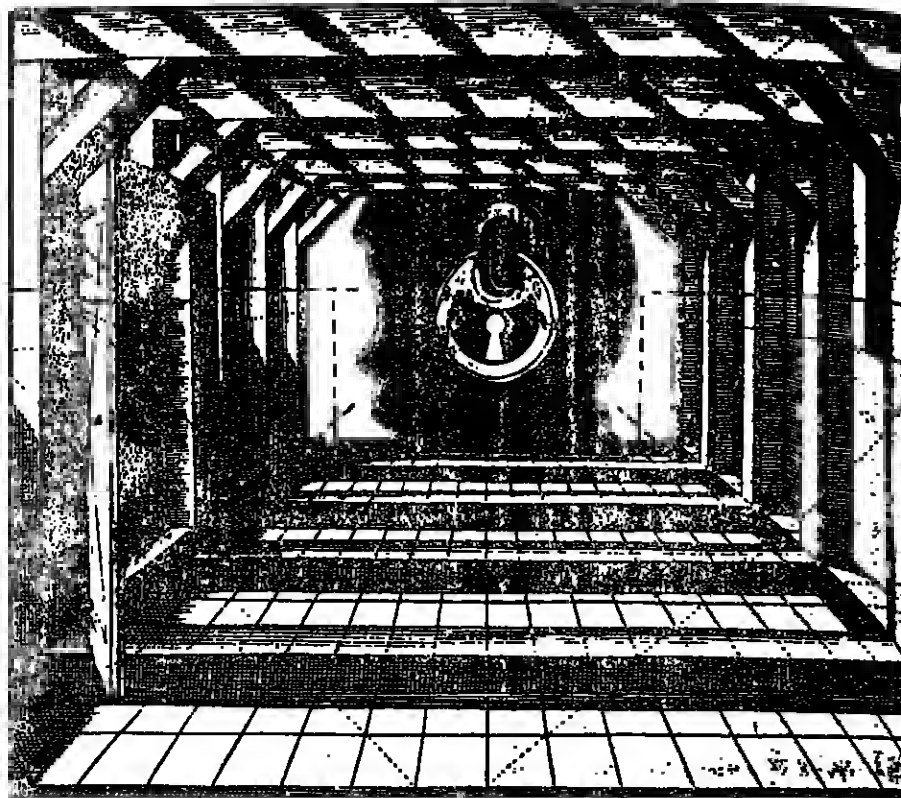
THE PREVIOUS French Minister of Education, Mr. Rene Haby, established the "single high school". The idea was to collect all pupils in the same classes and give them the same schooling from the first to the fourth forms. Now new Minister, Mr. Alain Savary, wants to improve the system even further.

After thinking carefully about the proposals and conclusions of the project "for a democratic high school" put forward by Mr. Louis Legrand, and after talking with the main trade unions, the Minister desires, above all, to transform the life of the high schools. The reform is due to come into force in September 1984.

This project put forward by Mr. Legrand, a specialist in the education sciences, is an ambitious one. He has suggested replacing the traditional class by groups of 80 to 100 pupils divided into groups — of similar standard for certain subjects and of mixed standard for other subjects, with the chance of changing, according to the results.

Mr. Alain Savary has adopted this direction but refuses to impose it in the high schools can choose the formula they desire after "two days of collective information and careful thought", which will be organized in each establishment.

The Minister agrees with Louis Legrand that the salaries and services of teachers who are paid according to different scales and work different hours will have to be brought into line; this problem will be negotiated with the trade unions. But the "tutoring" system, as proposed — the key to the new programme of Mr. Legrand — is adopted, as long as individual pupils are given separate attention regularly. The tutor will be a teacher who will take charge of ten to fifteen scholars for at least one year and will help each of them in his work and his school life.



Forgetfulness of things past

By Riad H. Dabbas

Special to the Star

DO YOU remember your second birthday party? The friends you played with when you were three years old? Or your first day at kindergarten? "In the modern view, adults have trouble recalling the events of childhood because they no longer think as children do."

Try as you might, the odds are that you cannot bring back many of those memories from your early years, and even those you can are likely to be fragments, fleeting scenes, isolated moments. As infants and young children, we learn about the world at a prodigious rate. Yet by the time we reach childhood, most memories of those years have dimmed or faded entirely. All of us suffer from what is called "childhood amnesia," a phenomenon that has puzzled memory experts for decades.

Freud spoke of childhood amnesia as "the forgetting which veils our earliest youth from us and makes us strangers to it." To get safely through the oedipal years, with their perverse, incestuous, and violent wishes, forgetting is essential, according to Freud.

But the wall of repression that is built sometime, before the age of five or six also leads to neurosis. In part, psychoanalysis is a method of breaching the wall so that the patient can relive and re-examine those buried, volcanic emotions.

New theories

Freud's view of childhood amnesia, which was formulated at the turn of the century, is being challenged in the light of new theories of cognition. In the view of contemporary cognitive psychologists, adults find it difficult to recall the events of childhood not because of repression but because they are no longer able to think as children do; as adults, we simply do not have easy access to the kinds of cues that might help us to remember those early experiences.

What direct evidence has been collected — much of it from studies dating from the 1940s and 1950s — shows that most adults recall little from the first three to five years of their life. The average age of first memories is about three-and-a-half years, and for people who do recall them the number of early memories increases for each successive year. (The rate of increase accelerates rapidly up to age five, then begins to drop off.)

Childhood "schemata"

The research facts thus generally agree with Freud's claim that amnesia begins in the oedipal period, which occurs at about age five. But other evidence throws his explanation into doubt. For one thing, as Neisser, a cognitive psychologist at Cornell University, observes, Freud's theory would seem to predict that a patient should readily recall his childhood years when his analysis was completed — a prediction which is never confirmed.

In Neisser's view, children develop structures of thought called "schemata", which give us perceptions a frame of reference.

As a child grows from infancy to school age, these categories of thought are added to and elaborated upon. For example, the two-year-old's book may be some sort of block that the child uses to build things on the floor. At four it may be something containing stories that are read to the child by a grandparent. At six, it may be something the child reads, even more specifically a "favourite book" to remember the book, the child would also think of the categories that "define" it — building blocks, stories read by a grandparent, favourite book.

To recall past events from memory age Neisser, the schemata categories used to store the memories must match those used to store them in the first place. Since schemata change with age, the difference between a child's categories and adult's impede easy recall of the events of early childhood.

Attentional capacity

Another theory of why childhood gets lost is put forward by Sheldon White of Harvard University. In this view, it is not only the mismatch between the child's schemata and the retrieved cues of the child-become adult that contribute to amnesia, but the difference in "attentional capacity" between a child and an adult.

Pascel-Leone's data purports that the complexity of a person's thought depends on the amount of information that individual can bring to attention at one time. The size of "mental space" or M-space, in which thought occurs defines many separate schemata a person can think about at a given moment. The bigger the M-space, the more concepts can be held in mind, and the more complex the thoughts possible.

Current memory research that the broader a person's field of attention — that is the greater the M-space — the more bits of information the person can commit to memory at a given moment. And the more information encoded, the more cues available for retrieving that memory. Since children at about age five double their M-space capacity from one unit to two, White says this would predict a major jump in the retrievability of memories at about that age. In the early years of life, he concludes, a child's M-space is not yet sufficient for an intentional and easily addressable memory — hence — the amnesia that sets in later in life.

Elizabeth Loftus, psychologist at the University of Washington notes that in most reported childhood amnesia remains an enigma. Loftus comments: "There is ample proof that even the young infants have memory for events that happened days, weeks, and months before. We should these early memories wane as we age. There are no answers yet, just speculation."

A quiet actress retains her fighting spirit

By Najwa Kefay

Special to the Star

FOR ABOUT 8 years now, Lebanese actress Nidal Ashkar one of the most educated, talented and brave Arab theatrical personalities has been living quietly in her artistically furnished house, away from every body, on a peaceful hill in Hachmeh.

Yet, Nidal is not as quiet as she seems to be. The idealism and the anger that have caused difficulties for her all through her career are still there and she is still too honest to hide her ideas.

Nidal Ashkar is not a typical Arab actress. She studied at one of the world's leading academies of dramatic art the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA) in London.

Her aim was to become a television director, but she found out that in order to become a good director, one has to be good actress first. So she trained as an actress and worked with leading theater directors such as Joan Littlewood, who is considered to be one of the founders modern theatre in Europe. She also worked with such brilliant young European directors as Peter Brooke, Devenish and Yan Kott.

While she was training as an actress, she discovered that acting was what she actually wanted to do, and as Nidal said, "I then found out, that in modern theatre, a well trained actor is himself, the director, the producer, the decorator, the musician, the play writer etc, all in one."

When Nidal returned to Beirut she started her own theatre, training the young amateur Lebanese actors. It was then that she started finding her own technique, and developing it to express her own ideas. During this time she worked with some of the best Lebanese actors and directors including Shakeeb Khoury, the Rahbaniis and Feyrouz, Monir Abu Dibs and Raymond Gehara.

A new theatre

Later she teamed with the famous Lebanese actor Roger Assaf and together they created a revolution in the field of theatre in the Arab world.

They introduced a new style of theatrical art which the Arab world had not seen before. The atmosphere that prevailed in their plays was a critical satirical one, socially and politically. Such was their impact that one of their plays Majdoun I was banned, after only four days of performing. All the actors directors etc, were taken to prison.

But even on her way to prison Nidal retained her fighting spirit.

She tells the story. "We were taken from the theatre and while we were passing Hamra street, we stopped in front of the famous "Horse Shoe" cafe. There an idea occurred to me. I started the first line of the banned play, and the other actors carried on and we performed a live show for a startled audience and a furious policeman who did not know what to do or how to stop us.

"The show ended up with a battle and we were driven to the Hubeish police station sooner than we expected."

The banning of Majdoun II did not stop them from making Majdoun II, in the following year 1968. Majdoun II's first act was the end of Majdoun I, i.e. they started the play with a group of policemen coming on the stage and arresting all the actors. Of course the audience was terrified. Thinking it was true, but it was all within the play.



Scene from a play in Tunisia

From then on Nidal Ashkar's theatre flourished. Its strength was derived from the fact that Nidal's plays were drawn from the heart of Lebanon and based on the problems, dreams and hopes of the Lebanese people. Her group were, in fact, as concerned with their research work as with producing good plays.

Through these plays people found a new, modern, honest way of expressing themselves that crossed Lebanon's religious and sectarian lines.

She performed her plays successfully in three languages, French, English, and Arabic. Nidal also made about 8 television series, which are still considered amongst the best, even-made-for-television in the Arab world. In addition she has made 3 movies including one with actor Gene Hackman with Jerry Chusberg as director.

Asked whether she ever considered working on her own here in Amman, Nidal Ashkar said:

"No, I have not really considered it because ever since we came here, and my husband, Fadi Naim (who is also an actor and director and I thought it would be a matter of months, like all the Lebanese here I guess).

"We had both our boys here, Omar and Khalil, but we still think of ourselves as temporary residents. Maybe its time we should reconsider our situation, if things do not get any better during the near future," she says.

If she ever did consider opening her own theatre here, it would mean, a lot of time and effort to study the people of Jordan, their habits and beliefs, their characters and way of living throughout the country and this is not an easy job. But she emphasizes that her family's main aim is still to go back home and help rebuild Lebanon. Asked what she thought of television in Jordan, Nidal said "I think it is a rubbish but just like the rest of the television in all the Arab world. Fake subjects are treated superficially. Television is supposed to be used as means for educating people and giving them decent entertainment. Instead the public are looked on as being stupid and given cheap programmes to kill their time."

Nidal believes if you give the public something good they will appreciate it. She says Jordan has very talented actors and we should give them the right scripts, directing and production and give them the chance to prove they are good. She adds, "Why don't we ask our big writers to give us decent subjects, up to the standard of our audience."

"We don't even have a decent children's programme, why do they underestimate the intelligence and taste of our audience? Why do they address them as if they were mentally retarded."

Co-operation

Nidal Ashkar also believes strongly that there should be more co-operation between the Arab television stations. She says there should be a mutual exchange of actors, directors and producers, and more common activities. Even with in one television station, there should be more co-operation among the actors themselves.

As Nidal says, "In all Arab television station every actor takes his part home with him, studies it by heart, comes to the studio and performs directly in front of the camera, along with his fellow actors who have done the same."

To Nidal, this is ridiculous. Acting to her, is more than just knowing words by heart. It involves human interaction, people co-operating with



Nidal Ashkar... a quiet life



But she must still speak out

each other, helping each other, and making use of their mutual experience.

She tells a story of a director and a playwright, both of whom she knew and admired, who approached her to play a guest role in one of their programmes. They brought her a script with only her part in it. She called next day to ask to read the whole script so she could understand the whole play and do some research on its history and background. The two men felt insulted and have never called her again.

"In general, Nidal goes on", acting has teaching problems in our part of the world, and its heart breaking for some one like me to look at it knowing that a lot could be done to lift it from its present messy condition.

Poor image

In its present state, she says, they are damaging if not destroying the image of the country. Art is but a reflection of the culture of its country, and we have a far richer culture and a far better image than the one we are projecting.

"We are people with a heritage," she continues, "and the artist is the means to show this heritage to the world and remind the future generations of their history. An artist is not only a means of entertainment, he is a teacher, a carrier of valuable message."

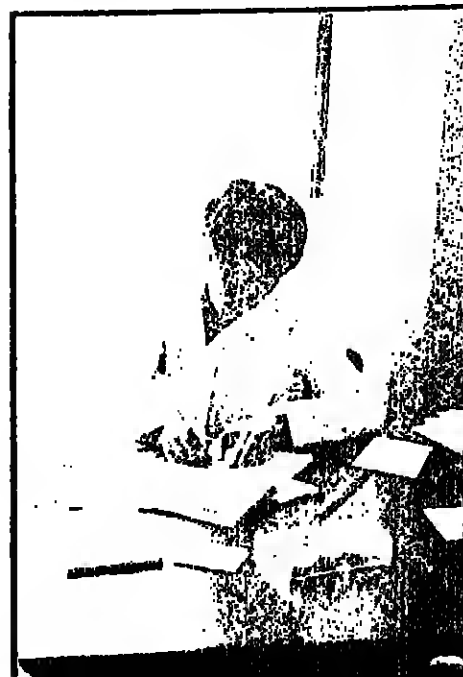
"Why do we get foreign artists to offer all art to our society and erase our own?"

For Nidal's integrity and honesty must take precedence over everything. Recently she turned down a very tempting offer from director George Roy Hill to play the main Arab role in the film of John LeCarre's book "The Little Drummer Girl."

The film was supposed to be produced here in Jordan. But Nidal refused to play the part after reading the script and finding out it had been completely changed from the book and was now a Zionist script. She asked the producers change the script but they refused, and the Jordanian Government after finding that the script did not allow them to make the film here and it is now being filmed in Israel.



A relaxing moment with husband, and fellow actor, Fadi Naim



Nurse keeps continuing record of TB patients in Jordan



Social and health workers from the Chest Diseases Division of the Ministry of Health



Dr. Ma'amoun Maabreh

Tuberculosis is on its way out

Story and pictures
by Joyce Niles
Special to the Star

THE CHEST Diseases Division of Jordan's Ministry of Health is involved in a major campaign to eradicate tuberculosis from the country by 1988.

The essence of their plan of action, which was developed by Division Director Dr. Ma'amoun Maabreh, is good planning and close supervision of staff to achieve maximum results.

The plan went into effect in 1981 with 9000 people screened, revealing 348 patients harboring tubercle bacillus in sputum. The following year 15,000 were tested with 384 TB patients found as compared to figures of 4000 and 60 respectively for 1980, prior to the new plan. This year over 20,000 people will be screened.

Dr. Maabreh explained that while the absolute number of cases found is increasing, the prevalence of tuberculosis is decreasing in Jordan's population.

High risk

Dr. Maabreh is focusing his attention on his risk groups — those who work directly with the public and might present a threat of infection to others and those deemed more susceptible to chest diseases. People in specific high risk groups are asked to come in to health centres to be checked; symptomatic patients and their contacts, immigrants, hospital in-patients, workers in the cement

and phosphate mines, the aged, prisoners, and boarders in lodging houses. Immigrants into the country prove to be the largest area of concern for the department as the disease is prevalent in this group.

"The sputum laboratory is the most important part of our department. That is where we find out if we have a patient or not," Dr. Maabreh said. All people being screened have their sputum examined under the microscope to see if there is any tubercle bacilli present. This simple test that only requires a few minutes gives 90 to 100 per cent indication of the disease. If the test is positive, the person is taken under care.

Rapid cure

With new drugs available it is possible to cure TB in as little as six months as compared to two or three years in the past.

"Serious cases are sent to hospital for in-patient treatment but it is universally accepted that home treatment is preferred," he continued.

All treatments and medication for tuberculosis are free. Patients have monthly check-ups during the course of care and help from home visitors and social workers. They are also treated for any other complaint during their TB regimen. After their cure patients are followed up at six month intervals for the first year and a half and a complete registry of all cases in the country is kept to avoid duplication of work by Dr. Maabreh and his staff.

New wing for Islamic Hospital

By Joyce Niles

The philanthropic Islamic Hospital has opened a new ten-bed deluxe wing in answer to the needs of the people. "People taking the room, the new wing are those who could afford to be treated but prefer to stay in the country if they can have the same services," Mohammed Abu Ruz, spokesman for the hospital.

Each room is furnished with rug, couch, easy chairs, refrigerator, fan and is connected to the central nursing station by intercom in addition to the regular bell. Calls on the intercom are registered on a board in the main office so the signal light stays on for an extended time. Administrative staff can notice it.

"The service is much better here and you find a specialist any time of the day or night. The nursing service and medical attention are the same as the rest of the hospital but the facilities in these rooms is more luxurious — all are excellent. And the people working in the hospital are not doing it for the money," said Mr. Qutub Wahbeh, a patient being treated for his ulcers.

Islamic Hospital was built with donations, much effort over 13 years by all of the Jordanian community. One-third of its patients are cases and to date 495 patients have had full coverage of expenses paid to the hospital by the philanthropic fund associated with it, a total of 64,734 JDs since opening this spring.

Donations continue to be the mainstay of the philanthropic fund and the expansion of the hospital. Recently Mr. Zaki Abu Loughed a guest citizen donated the funds to build a new surgical section. And in the future the hospital hopes to be able to treat an even larger percentage of its patients on a charity basis while giving a high standard of medical service. The hospital has a policy of receiving and treating all patients without discrimination.

Personal touch

Dr. Maabreh's philosophy is, "Do your work properly and be honest with yourself. If you don't satisfy yourself, you won't satisfy others." Adding, "Clerking is not for a doctor," he often rises at dawn to drive hundreds of kilometres to even the most remote health centre to check on the work being done there, arriving at eight in the morning just as clinic doors are opening for a surprise inspection tour.

"I don't telephone ahead to tell them that I am coming and I don't let them know how often I will come," he grinned. "I believe in putting the right person in the right place and then supervising them closely."

By continuing this plan of action Dr. Maabreh and his staff hope to eradicate tuberculosis by 1988 freeing Jordan from this disease just as it has been freed of malaria in the past.

X-ray imbalance

According to the World Health Organization there is one X-ray machine for every 2000 people in the industrialized world; in the Third World the figure is one for every 200,000 people.

The reason is simple. X-ray machines need skilled technicians, reliable electric current and other resources not always found in developing countries.

Doctors tackle ancient threat

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

THANKS TO modern medical technology, cancer, in many cases is now curable and is no longer necessarily fatal says Dr. Ghassan Farah of Jordan University Hospital. He says that although Jordan does not have a purpose to build centre for cancer treatment (the university hospital is developing an efficient service to meet the needs of diagnosis and management of cancer).

The hospital's group of cancer specialists, a surgical oncologist (oncology is the study of new growths of body tissue) a medical paediatrician and two haematological oncologists have now developed a workable cancer service preliminary to the establishment of a full operating cancer centre.

Dr. Farah described cancer as basically the change of a normal cell of an organ, a process which is called mutation. The cell attains an independent and uncontrolled progressive multiplication and growth at the expense of the surrounding structures causing their infiltration and destruction. Such growth serves no physiological function and is without a projected termination.

The cells that comprise a cancer mass lose the normal features of cohesiveness and thus are

easily detached to spread via the blood and lymphatic vessels to the various parts of the body.

Ancient disorder

Cancer is far from a new disease Dr. Farah stresses. Pharaonic mummies have been found to have cancer and the first cancer surgery was performed by the Greek, Galen who carried out a mastectomy for breast cancer.

The majority of cancers show no definite causation and are caused by many factors, the main one being environmental according to Dr. Farah. He says that in the past three decades doctors have learned to control two types of cancer which were previously fatal and great progress has been made in expanding our knowledge of the biology of cancer. For example we now know the ultrastructure of the tumor and more about the cancer cell and its multiplication and growth.

Modern treatment

The modern concept of treatment of cancer is multimodal. One incorporating surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy etc. Good progress has been made in all these spheres, including better surgery techniques, more powerful radiotherapy machines which render a conventionally resistant tumor more responsive.

Moreover he says, "We are now discovering new generations of cytotoxic and hormonal drugs and better techniques for their use. We also have developed and applied programmes for cancer

screening and consequently early diagnosis which is a decisive factor in its eradication."

But, Dr. Farah says that despite many remarkable achievements scientists have not yet succeeded in showing the actual process that triggers off the change of a normal cell or the mechanism of cancer mutation. If they could show these cancer control and eradication would be much easier.

International statistics indicate that cancer is the cause of one quarter of all deaths. About half a million women die each year from breast cancer and in 1978 for example 700,000 new cases of cancer were diagnosed. Jordan does not, so far, have a cancer registry but statistics indicate that the incidence of cancer is about the same as the international figure.

Pioneering work

In the treatment of cancer Jordan University Hospital is applying the most up-to-date methods of cancer possible with the facilities available. They are also doing some pioneering work such as running trials on treating early breast cancer by segmental (partial) re-section of the breast. This avoids the serious psychological complications of a full mastectomy.

They are also running trials for a more conservative treatment of cancer of the limbs. The aim is to avoid amputation by using the multimodal approach of regional chemotherapy combined with



Dr. Ghassan Farah

radiotherapy and surgical excision of the tumor. The treatment of various types of lymphomas and lymphomas have also improved greatly by the use of a combination of chemotherapy and surgery.

The Oriental go-getters grabbing all the prizes

By Jeremy Campbell

THE IMAGE of a demure, dazzlingly pretty 17-year-old girl standing on a platform and telling her entire assembled school to "shun mediocrity" has caught the US imagination and started another blazing debate about the crisis of the American character.

Dung (pronounced Zoon) Nguyen is a Vietnamese refugee who came to America in 1975 knowing only one word of English: "No." Now she has graduated from High School with the highest marks in the history of the school. She was telephoned by President Reagan, gave a three-minute valedictory address and was seen in every newspaper from Hackensack to Hawaii.

Overnight, Dung Nguyen has become an emblem of a worrying trend seldom talked about in the US — the conspicuous success of Asian and Oriental students who in many cases are streaking ahead of white Americans and capturing the glittering prizes that are to be won in mathematics, science and medicine.

At Columbia University the ascendancy of such students is so glaring that a professor in the physics department half-jokingly suggested introducing a quota system to limit the number of Orientals taking advanced degrees.

Well liked

A teacher at America's most famous academy for gifted children, the Bronx High School of Science, told me: "These are the new high achievers. It's a modern version of the go-ahead wave of immigrants from Eastern Europe earlier in the century."

"I felt a definite linge of embarrassment when the names of outstanding students were read out at our graduation ceremonies this year," said Barbara Stewart, senior counselor at a big high school in Houston, one of America's major high-tech research cities.

"So many were foreign-born. Of the top ten, five came from places like



Congratulations from the President — for star pupil Dung Nguyen

Vietnam and China. This trend began about three years ago, and I've watched it grow."

The latest census confirms the trend. The average income of Oriental Americans is nearly 2000 dollars a year higher than that of whites. They have lower unemployment rates and are better educated. University of Michigan psychologist Harold Stevenson found American students make an average of 20 per cent more mistakes than their Japanese counterparts in mathematical tests.

Dung Nguyen, the essence of politeness, and so well liked she was given a standing ovation even while publicly advising her Pensacola classmates to shape up, told me: "I have a horror of mediocrity." A whiz at calculus, she also watches Love Boat ("It's a romantic") and is reading The Old Man and the Sea.

She said, "American students kind of slack off in their schoolwork. Maybe

they don't care so much. They have good homes and think their future is secure. They imagine everything will fall into their laps."

Some teachers believe the US is heading for a new era when children of the new wave of Oriental and Asian immigrants will move into positions of leadership in many fields.

They are already doing so. One of the great role models is Connie Chung, a glamorous newscaster and daughter of a nationalist Chinese official, who earns about 100,000 dollars a year and can afford to smile at jokes about "yellow journalism."

"They are different," Barbara Stewart said. "Extremely self-disciplined. They dress better, are less likely to take drugs or drink, and go for the hard subjects like engineering and physics which demand discipline and application."

(London Express Service)

Aching shoulder

I often suffer from an aching shoulder caused by bursitis. The pain lasts anywhere from one week to two. I found that putting a heating pad on it and also taking aspirin lessens the pain, but I would like to stop further episodes.

These simple methods of relieving the pain are only temporary measures, as you may have realised by now. It is necessary to track down the underlying cause of this recurrent condition.

The shoulder is a common site for

bursitis, an inflammation of the bursa, or small sac, found between the muscle and the bones of the joint that minimises friction and allows free movement of the body.

A bursa is filled with a viscous fluid that achieves this function. If a bursa is injured, inflamed or irritated, it swells and the resulting pain is a protective mechanism that prevents movement of the affected joint and limits further injury and irritation.

Health by Joyce Niles

Possible causes of the pain could be lifting a heavy load, any sort of pressure on that joint, chilling, or a tendency to gout. Bursas can become infected, or have deposits of uric acid or calcium which will not improve with time and need the attention of your doctor if you are to find relief from these attacks.



All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar

Maria and the doctors

I'VE just finished reading a moving account by David Werner, a health worker in a remote Mexican village, of what he learned from Maria, a sick woman who sought help from her village health centre.

After being released from a large regional hospital Maria came to her village health centre complaining of shortness of breath, a racing pulse and rapidly beating heart. She said she was suffering from a mysterious illness with vague symptoms, known in Latin American countries as "susto". She told the staff there that she was going to die.

Greatly concerned by her obvious distress, the people in the centre performed every test they were capable of doing in their post and when they were joined by a team of visiting specialists, efforts to save Maria were doubled.

An around-the-clock watch was set up to monitor and record her vital signs. Doctors made heroic exertions with medications to reduce the frantic pace of her heartbeats. And all the while Maria protested loudly and repeatedly that she was going to die.

Wearied and frustrated by more than two weeks of all-around efforts on Maria's behalf with her condition steadily deteriorating, the doctors worried that they had created a psychological dependency in her from too much medical attention. They decided to move her to a private house nearby. Only one nurse would attend her.

As two of the health workers held her up by her arms and helped her to walk out the front door, down the steps and into the yard, Maria fell to her knees and died.

Mr. Werner concluded, "I wept as I have not wept since childhood... It wasn't so much Maria's death that wracked me — her death was perhaps inevitable — it was the way she died. In her hour and moment of greatest need, we had forsaken her. We, to whom she had come for help, to whom she had called out so urgently. And we had done it so stupidly! So complacently, so blindly! ... I was weeping for the death of something inside of me, something I had believed in: the death of Kindness, the death of Love."

"Slowly a new light began to glimmer from the ashes of despair... I realized that Kindness and Love had not died; rather, they had been rekindled by Maria's death. What had died had been something false and petty and obdurate within us, something which needed to die, to be wrestled from our breasts so that Love and Kindness could find more room in our lives. Maria had been the martyr to the cause of our knowing ourselves."

Ultimately everyone in the health centre resolved to give vent to their natural compassion and support... that which they could have given to Maria so easily, that she begged for. As one of them put it simply, "To do what I feel in my heart is right."

Doctors and health workers, by the nature of their professions, are called upon to deal with the crisis of life and death many times more than we ordinary people ever encounter a lifetime. And yet how many times have we noticed or been told about a friend, relative, co-worker, or neighbour who was suffering from a worry, grief, illness or other burden in their life. We wish to do or say something that will demonstrate the sympathy we feel for them and yet we hold back, not sure if we can express our sentiments in the appropriate, the correct, words, afraid to intrude, reticent because we have been taught to "mind our own business".

Or is it too something false and petty and obdurate within us that holds us back?

Maybe if we just blurted out what we feel in our hearts is right, held their hand, showed sympathy in some way it help that person through his crisis. And what greater damage does the dunning up of Kindness and Love within us do to you and me?

Potato soup with herbs

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 onions, peeled and chopped
- 1 kilo potatoes, peeled and chopped
- 1 1/2 litres water and 2 stock cubes
- 1 good pinch dried tarragon
- 1 tablespoon parsley
- 1 tablespoon spring onion greens
- 1 chopped
- One eighth litre double cream or yogurt
- Salt and pepper

Method

- Heat the oil in a large pan and fry the onions until soft but not browned
- Add the potato and cook for a further 2-3 minutes
- Pour in the water, stock cubes and dried tarragon
- Bring to the boil and then simmer until the potatoes are soft
- Liquidise or sieve
- Add the fresh herbs and the cream and reheat
- Season to taste

Would you believe it?

POLICE RUSHED to the scene when a caller reported finding a safe abandoned by the roadside in the English Midlands town of Halesowen.

Officers dusted it for finger-prints and then tried to move it. But it would not budge, despite much heaving and pulling. Even a tow truck failed to shift the thing. "It was then," said an embarrassed police spokesman, "that we realised we were dealing with an electricity junction box cemented into the ground."

A CROCODILE reared up from the gutter in the centre of Cairns, Australia and gobbled 19-year-old Barry Robertson by the leg.

Robertson, on his way home from a nightclub, managed to fight off the four-foot (1.2 metre) beast with the help of a passing taxi driver.

A police spokesman said: "We occasionally get them around the town after heavy rain."

people

Just Between Us

Ya'qoub Salim

'My dear sir...'

WHY ARE WE a nation of shirt-grabbers, shouters and makers of rude gestures? Why do we feel that in order to be successful businessmen a young man must learn first (before he even knows how to add a column of figures) how to shout until the other side gives up? Why, indeed, do we so often feel that we can't rest at the end of the day until we've had at least one good row with somebody?

I think I've found the answer to this aspect of our national character. It's due, at least in part, to our backwardness as far as the art of epologues is concerned. We haven't yet learned how to make good excuses.

How many times have you heard a foreigner complain at the slow pace at which things are done here in this beautiful country of ours? That it is impossible to get their dinner on time, to get their plumbing repaired or a suit altered by the date promised? Come to think of it, don't we ourselves complain of this, sometimes using a violent mode of expression, just as often?

There's justice in all these remarks — but anyone who has lived in one of those wonderful Western countries so famed for their efficiency can tell you it really isn't so astonishing. Those Germans, Danes and Italians are only human, after all. They have delays and hiccups too. But through decades of experience, they have learned to let themselves off the hook so skillfully that their excuses are always accepted. This preserves their reputation of efficiency.

Take the example of my friend who was about to move house, and needed several repairs done to the new place before he could take possession. Landlords in all countries are notorious for moving like Galapagos tortoises in such situations. But this one seemed really to want his new tenant to move in soon, and besides that he owned a construction company. Therefore my friend was willing to give at least provisional credence to the pledge to have the place completely ready by 15 July.

When 15 July came around, he was not really too surprised to find that the work hadn't been finished. He was disappointed to see that it hadn't even started — but it was his landlord's excuse which really irked him. The last week before the 15th had been the 'Eid holiday', he was told — and you know how hard it is to get workers at that time.

This didn't quite do, after all. The landlord had not said he'd get it all finished "if there's no holiday." He knew bloody well there was going to be one. Now consider how a German would approach it:

"My dear sir, surely you can't have thought that in saying the work would be finished by the 15th of July we meant the work would be finished by the 15th of July! Why you must realize that there are certain conditions to be fulfilled. After all, you don't yet live in this house, and you have not paid your deposit!" (Neither condition having been mentioned in the earlier conversation.) "In addition to that, you must consider the general business situation and recent disruptions in supplies which make it impossible to finish."

"We also have certain commitments to our employees which we feel would be violated if we were to work them too hard... I'm sure you don't want us to act against our lofty principles." Now rest assured, the work will be finished with all due dispatch — and don't make any more silly mistakes.

That is the correct approach — not to give the complainer a chance to scream and yell, to pre-empt him with a plausible-sounding story and send him on his way, feeling slightly guilty. We have years of cultural growth ahead of us before we will reach this stage of sophistication and be counted among the efficient countries.

Award for Alia's 'First Lady'

During a gala banquet in Washington recently Taghrid Akasha, Alia First Officer/TriStar fleet, received an "Order of Merit" from the World Aerospace Education Organization.

The award was in recognition of her pioneering work as the first Arab woman to serve as a pilot in an airline cockpit crew.

Taghrid studied aeronautical engineering in England and joined Alin as a flight engineer in 1975. She has been first officer on the TriStar since 1981. Taghrid was in exalted company at the Washington awards, others receiving awards included Jean Leup-Chretien, the first French astronaut and Dr. Sally Ride, the first American woman in space.

But Taghrid remains modest about her very special achievements. She says she just feels lucky to be doing the job she's trained for and likes best.



Taghrid Akasha receives her award from WAO President Mr. Kamil Naguib

Indian food can be a remarkable stimulant to good conversation, as guests at Mr. Ashok Kumar's home on Sunday evening discovered. Mr. Kumar, who is the first secretary at the Indian embassy in Amman, and Mrs. Kumar invited a lively group to sample the subcontinental delicacies, which ranged from the familiar chapatis to an impressive chicken curry to the richest of desserts — yet so delicious that even those who groaned with repletion returned for more.

One suspected that the spicy dishes were carefully toned down in deference to guests who don't live on chilis. During the buffet dinner and the long cocktail period that preceded it, conversation ranged just as widely. Mr. Fayed Jaber, chairman of the Royal Committee for Jerusalem Affairs, discussed with Mr. Mohammad Rifaa of the Egyptian Interest Section Egypt's place in the Arab world; while Mrs. Jaber and Mrs. Rifaa spoke with US Embassy Political Officer Fred Turco and his wife Lois about the meaning of the Islamic dress code.

Among some of the other guests, Capt. Dave Wissel, in Jordan to train as a US Army Foreign Area Officer, gave a graphic demonstration of the difficult differences between Modern Standard and colloquial Arabic. He also had time, however, to expound on another of his favourite subjects — the glories of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho as a place to live — and to recommend that any visitor to the United States should make sure to include in his tour not New York, but Kansas City, Missouri.

Other Jordanian guests included Mr. Abdullah Irtelmech of the Foreign Affairs Ministry and Miss Laurie Ahl — who holds the position of adviser at the Tourism and Antiquities Ministry but has recently been reassigned for another year's secondment to the UN Development Programme.

The foreign guests, to name only a few, included Indian Ambassador and Mrs. Pyare Lal Santoshi, Japanese Ambassador and Mrs. Nakayama, Japanese Charge d'Affaires and Mrs. Nobu Ebtes, the Kims, the Johnsons of South Korea and Canada respectively and Algeria's Ambassador Latil.

Capt. Wissel's wife Kathy was also

there, along with the Kuwaiti embassy's Mr. Saad Salman and others.

An attendance of 160 people at a party might seem like quite enough for some people...but Swiss Ambassador to Jordan and Mrs. Andre Valloe, who hosted that many at a reception in honour of Switzerland's National Day on Sunday, were ready for more.

Many of the invited guests, such as Prime Minister Mudar Badran, were forced by the press of responsibilities to send their apologies along with a floral tribute to the occasion. It being summer, many others were out of town, and the invited guests of the Royal Court, of course, were away with His Majesty King Hussein. But attendance was still substantial. It included one cabinet member, Minister of Industry and Trade, Walid Asfour, along with several undersecretaries and other officials.

Hoping Mr. Dabbas has been lifting the post of Sales and Marketing Director at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel for some months now; but it was only this week that his appointment was formally celebrated, with a cocktail party at the hotel on Saturday evening. Officials of various stripes attending the affair were too numerous to mention, including as they did many guests from outside as well as heads of departments at the hotel.

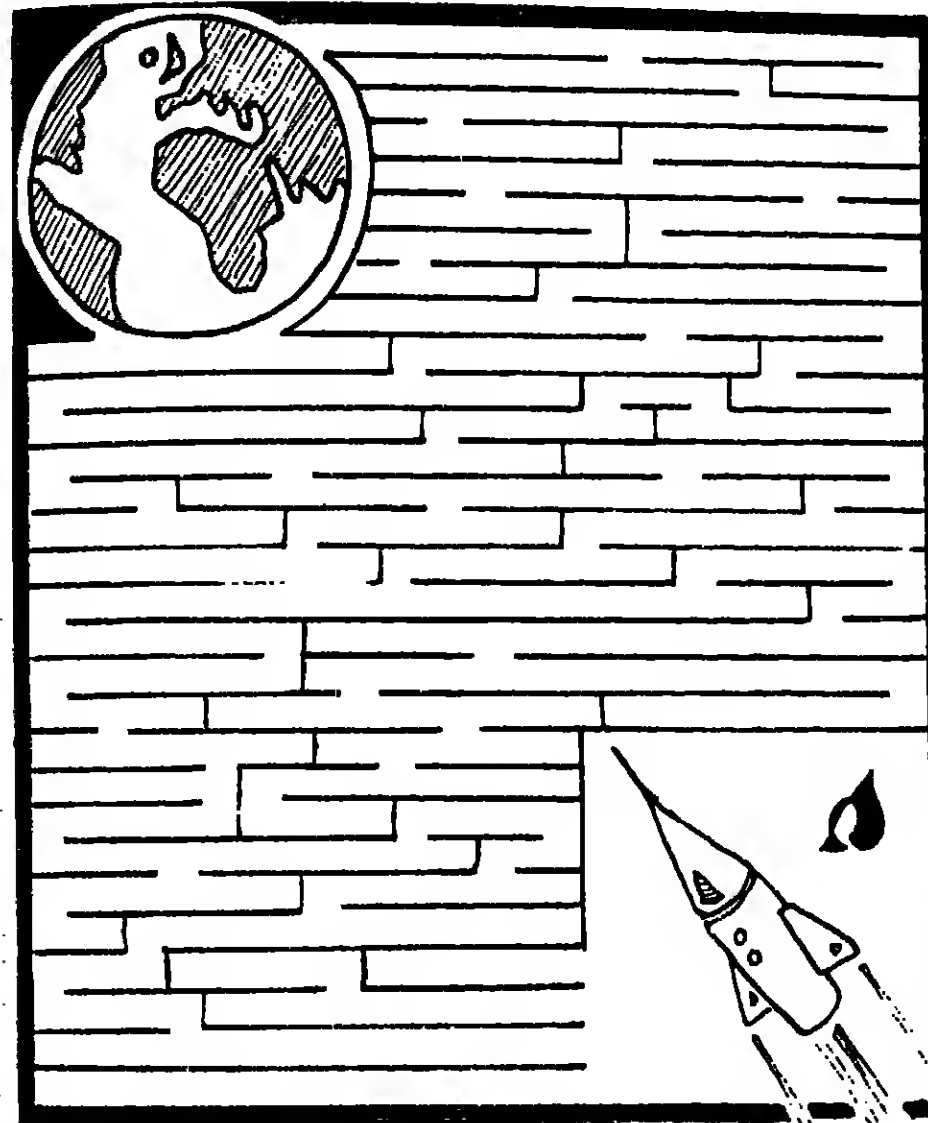
In an earlier interview with The Star, Mr. Dabbas had said that the management's plan at the hotel is to "maintain the high standard of service and to offer the best facilities for our clients."

Mr. Volou took the occasion to remind listeners of the Swiss National Fair, coming up in mid-September in Lausanne, at which Jordan is to have a pavilion. The pavilion will concentrate on tourism and cultural subjects, with particular emphasis on the Neolithic. It will most likely be inaugurated by either His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan or, failing that, by Minister Asfour.

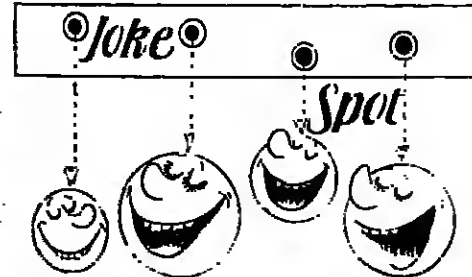
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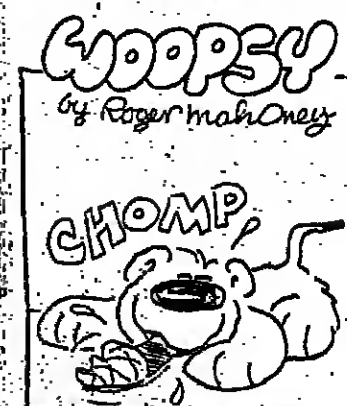
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CAN YOU GET THE ROCKET BACK TO EARTH?



Doctor: Take three tablespoons of this medicine a day.
Patient: Then I'll have to borrow another tablespoon — I've only got two at home!
Teacher: What is a snail?
Schoolboy: A worm with a crash helmet on!
Small girl: How much is that budgie?
Pet shop owner: Two Dinars
Small girl: That's fine. Just send me the bill.
Pet shop owner: Sorry, but you have to take the whole bird!



it's a record

From the Guinness Book of Records compiled by Norris McWhirter

THE MARITIME SOVEREIGN NATION WITH THE SHORTEST COASTLINE IS MONACO WITH 849 MILES EXCLUDING PIER AND BREAKWATERS.

PETE SQUINES RACED UP THE 1575 STEPS OF THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY, USA IN 10 MINUTES 59 SECONDS ON 12th FEBRUARY 1981.

SOME PEOPLE WOULD JUST PUSH IT ASIDE AND BAT THEIR CHIPS...

PERHAPS IT'LL GROW IF THEY WATER IT REGULARLY.

PROBABLY TAKE THAT LONG TO FALL DOWN THE OUTSIDE...



ALAN PETERSEN THREW A HARBOR (MINIMUM WEIGHT 10 8oz) 153 FEET 9 1/2 INCHES AT THE ABBOTSBURY HIGHLAND GAMES ON 14th JULY 1981.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE MUST CEASE... EVENTUALLY...



THE UPPER LUPPIN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA RELEASED A LETTER OF 23 553 WORDS OVER 8 HOURS FROM AUGUST 10 TO NOVEMBER 1979 WRITTEN BY JOHN SULTZBAUGH.

A Joint Effort

A short story for children
By Hamdan Al-Haj

THERE USED to be a hunting ground near a large city called Marawat. Often, hunters would go there to trap and kill the animals.

In the centre of this hunting ground there stood a large evergreen tree and in the tree lived a big black crow whose name was Hayir.

One day, as Hayir looked out from his high perch on the tree, he saw a clumsy old tramp coming toward the tree. He was carrying a stick, a trap and a net.

Hayir became frightened. "What is he up to?" He wondered. "Is he going to trap or kill me or one of the other animals?" Hayir decided to sit quietly and watch, to see what this scruffy old man would do.

The old hunter carefully set up his trap and scattered some grain around it. Then he hid in the nearby bushes.

Soon, some pigeons flew by. Their leader spotted the grain and they all swooped down to feed. But they did not see the trap or the large net.

Before they knew, they were caught. There seemed to be no escape from that

net. Each pigeon began to struggle to be free but it was no use.

Hayir had seen all this from his high branch in the evergreen tree and he wondered how he could help the captured pigeons.

At last Hayir had an idea. He called to the pigeons who were still struggling desperately under the net.

"Stop struggling," he called. "You will never be free if you wriggle. But if you try hard to fly together, you may be able to lift yourselves away."

The pigeons heard him and ceased their struggle. The pigeon leader said: "Let's try it. I shall count to three and we'll all try to lift off together."

"One..., two..., three..." said the pigeon leader. With all their strength the pigeons tried to lift into flight.

It took a great effort but at last the pigeons lifted off the ground, carrying the large net with them into the sky.

Hayir was relieved and pleased as he watched the pigeons make their escape from the scruffy old hunter. "It just shows what can be achieved when we co-operate and work together," he said with a smile.

MINDBOGLGLERS

HE WAS 8 FEET 2 INCHES TALL AND HE PLAYED FOR WAS CALLED KBBQPK. WHO IS HE?

THE UPPER FACE OF THE TOP OF THE HEAD IS WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE UPPER FACE OF THE HEAD?

FIT THE QUESTIONS TO THE NUMBERS.
HOW MANY DALLMATIONS IN THE FILM?
DATE OF BATTLE OF BANNOCKBURN?
SQUARE ROOT OF 81?
HOW MANY "GOOD MEN AND TRUE"?

SOLUTIONS
PELE WAS A WORLD TOP SCORER AND HE PLAYED FOR SANTOS.
15, AS OPPOSITE SIDES OF DICE ALWAYS ADD UP TO 7.
101 DALLMATIONS, 1314 BANNOCKBURN, 9 SQUARE ROOT OF 81, 12 IN A JURY.

Our Fascinating EARTH
BY PHILIP SEFF, PH.D. & DAVID BAER, D.

A WORLD OF LOST PYRAMIDS
IT WILL PROBABLY NEVER BE KNOWN JUST HOW MANY PYRAMIDS WERE BUILT BY PRE-COLUMBIAN INDIANS. ALTHOUGH MANY HAVE BEEN CLEARED OF THE ENCLOSING VEGETATION AND RE-CONSTRUCTED....

...SO MANY MORE ARE SIMPLY MOUNDS BURIED BENEATH THE THICK SHROUD OF THE JUNGLE. STAGGERING NUMBERS OF PYRAMIDS ARE BELIEVED TO EXIST; SCIENTISTS HAVE ESTIMATED IN MEXICO ALONE SOME 100,000 PYRAMIDS ARE YET TO BE UNCOVERED!

Send your pictures, stories and ideas to: Star Kids, Jerusalem Star, P.O. Box 591, Amman, with your name, age, school, address and size (small, medium, large)

THE JERUSALEM STAR

CALENDAR

Golf

All those interested in golf are invited in a public meeting on the establishment of the game in Jordan.
Saturday, 6 August at 5.00 pm at the Assembly Hall, Sports City Jordan City.

Jordan rally

The Royal Automobile Club of Jordan's "Jordan Rally" will commence at the Amman Marriott Hotel.
Thursday, 11 August at 8.00 am

Films

The American Centre presents "Yankee Doodle Dandy." James Cagney portrays America's most popular composer/entertainer of the 1930's.
Sunday, 7 August at 8.00 pm
Monday, 8 August at 7.00 pm
Wednesday, 10 August 8.00 pm

Exhibition

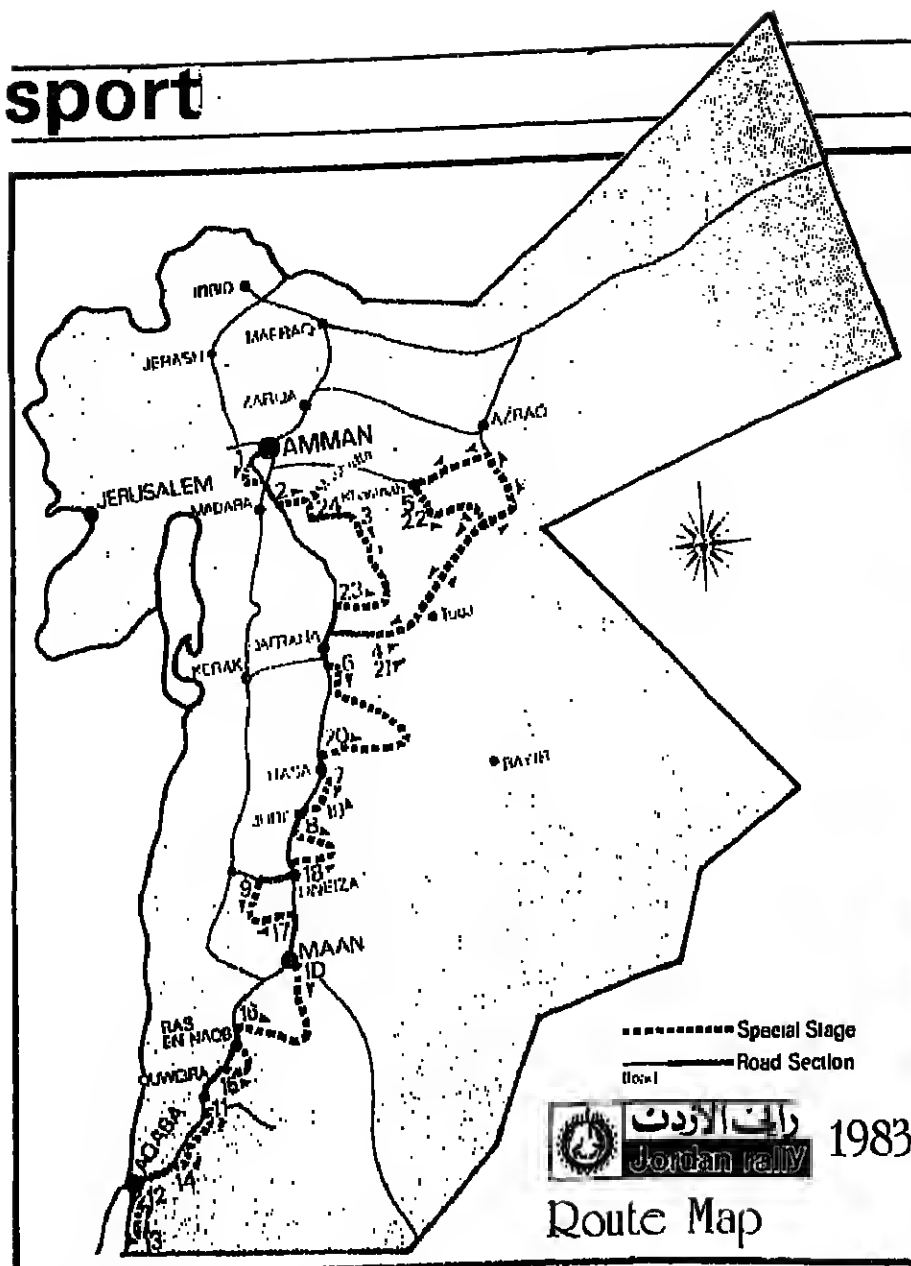
The Amman Presshouse exhibition of paintings by Margaret Othman.
From Thursday 6 August

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University Road.
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Tel. 665211



Drivers get set for rally

Ily Hamdan Al-Haj and Jim Weiss
Star Staff Writers

AMMAN — Thirty-one drivers including two women will vie for positions in the Middle East rally beginning on 11 August. The two-day competition will cover a distance of 1,400 kilometres. This was announced by the president of the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan, Mr. Derek Ledger at a press conference at the Marriott Hotel on Sunday.

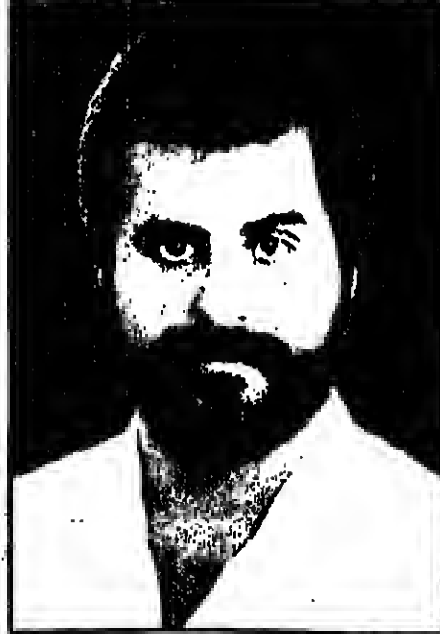
He also took the opportunity to announce some rules governing the competition.

These are: (1) All cars taking part in the rally must be fitted with seat belts for both front seats. (2) Each car must carry fire extinguishers of at least four kilograms. (3) Drivers and their co-drivers should possess valid driving licenses appropriate to the vehicle. (4) No driver will drive for more than 300 kilometres without rest or being relieved. The starting point of the rally is the Marriott Hotel at 0800 hrs on Thursday, 11 August.

Mr. Ledger said all trophies and awards will be presented collectively to both crew members. The prize for the first car is JD 500, JD 250 for the second and JD 125 for the third. Altogether, 14 Jordanians will take part in the rally.

This year's rally is a special one compared with the two previous ones held in Jordan. It is part of the Middle East Challenge rally, bringing together for the first time, drivers from Oman, Dubai, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain. It is expected that competition will be very keen.

Among the competitors are winners of the past Jordan rallies, Michel Saleh and Saeed Al-Hajiri. Saleh who is driving for the Toyota team while Saeed will compete for the Rothmans team.



Michel Saleh

The Toyota team organised by Mr. George Haddad, manager of Toyota distributors in Amman is sponsoring some Jordanians in the competition. The aim is to enable them to gain experience in order to perform well in future rallies.

One participant who gets busy even before the rally is the navigator who surveys the special stages of the route and marks out where he wants his driver to pass.

Al-Hussein Youth City

The Golf Club

The Golf Committee of the Hussein Youth City Club invites all those interested in the game of golf to attend a meeting which will be held in the Assembly Hall at 5 p.m. Saturday 6 August, 1983 to discuss matters pertaining to this subject.



Faheem Gul

Pakistani squash coach for Jordan

AMMAN (Star) — The manager of the Pakistani squash team Mr. Mubabasher Khan has said there are good prospects for squash in Jordan.

Speaking to The Star at the end of a six-day squash tournament in Jordan, Mr. Mubabasher said Jordanian squash players are talented, adding that what they need is a good coach to train them.

He disclosed that the Jordan Squash Federation has signed an agreement with the Pakistani Federation for the latter to help train the Jordanian team for the forthcoming Asian Squash championship next January.

To this end a Pakistani coach, Mr. Faheem Gul has been assigned to train the Jordanian team. Pakistan hold the world squash championship title. The tour of the Pakistani team was sponsored by the Pakistan International Airlines as its contribution towards the promotion of the sport.

Argentina defeats Australia in rugby

BRISBANE (AP) — Argentina defeated Australia 18-3 in the first Rugby Union test at Ballymore Oval, Sunday.

The Argentine Pumas scored two tries through Tomas Peterson and Boaventura Minguez and their captain Hugo Porta added two conversions, a penalty goal and a field goal.

Australia's only points came from a second half penalty from David Campese. Campese had been off-line with three earlier attempts while skipper Mark Ella missed another. The second and final test of the series will be played in Sydney on Sunday.

Venues named for chess semi-finals

MADRID (AP) — In spite of Soviet objections, the executive council of the International Chess Federation has upheld Pasadena, California, and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, as the definite venues for the two semifinals in the world chess championship.

The special meeting in Madrid was called after that held in Lucerne, Switzerland, failed to reach an agreement. The Soviet representative at the meeting, Nicolai Kroghin, said he will inform his country on the decision and that it will be up to the Soviet Federation to decide whether or not to send its players, grandmasters Garry Kasparov and Vasily Smyslov.

The Pasadena semifinal, set to start 6 August, was to be played by Kasparov and Victor Korchnoi, a Soviet defector now playing under the Swiss flag. In the Abu Dhabi semifinal Smyslov was scheduled to play Zoltan Ribli, Hungarian grandmaster. In line with regulations of the international federation, if the two Soviet grandmasters do not play the semifinals, their opponents will win by forfeit.

Fun And Fitness

Educational gymnastics
Ily: John Plews
Recreation Coach
US Sports Academy

Traditionally, gymnastics has held a prominent position in physical education programs in the western world. It has been seen by many members of the profession to be the central core of activity. Wide claims have been made for the contribution that gymnastics can make in bodily development and that it has a vital role to play in the physical education of a child. In fact, it is the sporting subject that best develops strength, balance, speed, and coordination — some of the basic qualities found in all sports.

Although gymnastics and movement education has been widely used in schools for many years, it has only recently become a great spectator sport due to the media coverage of the Olympic Games and the precision performances given by the competitors.

Olympic gymnastics, as seen through the media and performed in world competition, is a branch of gymnastics that requires many bodily attributes to be performed well. It takes time and hard work by both the coach and pupil to prepare the body for the wide range of movements involved.

Educational gymnastics, however, is another branch of the sport that in a way gives the student a chance to build up a range of movements with the intention of moving into the Olympic gymnastic field. This medium can involve anyone, the naturally gifted child or the child who, because of his physical make-up, is unsure of sports that make him look inadequate.

Educational gymnastics uses many different stimuli to encourage the child to be more aware of his body, the space around his body, and ways in which he can use his body to move around, over, under, and above various types of apparatus. A variety of themes are used emphasizing certain ways to explore a situation, such as themes that involve moving in a circular or linear fashion.

Stimuli used may be visual, musical, or through the use of "action" words designed to stimulate the child's mind so that he is able to put thought into movement.

After a child has become competent in various movements, the coach can then inject some of his own ideas. This occurs throughout the class, but now the movements will take on an Olympic approach. The moves will need to be done precisely, and it is from that point that the student will have a platform to build his gymnastic "vocabulary". This "vocabulary of movement," whether it is the child's ideas or those of a coach, will allow routines to be put together for future competition.

A child wouldn't be asked to write an essay if he could not put sentences together, but too often a child is asked to try and perform skills with no concept of technique or procedure. What can be done? Early skills development at a young age under the guidance of competent coaches who have a strong background in the sport is essential.

Children are eager to perform before an audience which serves to expose large numbers of individuals to the exciting sport and actively offered through gymnastics.

Intimate Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 4th August, 1983

CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th

The portents are that quite a lot of you will be travelling during this coming week, and by combining business with pleasure, you should make some extremely good headway in most directions. Your opposite number may be feeling rather tired at the beginning of the week, but do not worry, for this will not last, and you both have a very full week ahead, especially in the social field.

AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th

This should be a good week from the word go, and it has the unexpected things happening, and these will count the most. You will be faced with having to explain the workings of a document at business which has been misplaced. In your personal life, a member of the opposite sex may irritate you intensely. In this instance, try to be both diplomatic and tactful, and this should soon be overcome.

PISCES — February 19th to March 20th

At business, the indications are that you could receive an offer of a change, and in consequence, this would mean more money for you, with added opportunity for advancement. You should not hesitate in accepting this. You would be very well advised to take most things in your stride during this week, because there could be one or two rather unexpected obstacles holding up your progress. Romance appears to be very well started.

ARIES — March 21st to April 20th

Where your working life is concerned, it would appear that you cannot afford to let up too much during this coming week. There is a difficult person around you, who could be looking for faults. However, in your personal life, a new person you could meet some time during this week, will help to make it a very happy one for you. In the financial field, you should try to save a little money now.

TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th

You should be feeling in a very cheerful mood throughout this coming week, and it won't need much persuasion from a friend to get you to agree to a rather extravagant evening out some time during the next seven days. In the domestic field, an elderly person around you could be making quite a few demands on your time, and in consequence, your patience will at times be strained to the limit.

GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th

The indications are that you will be given the opportunity to organise a venture at work, and just as long as you are careful in your choice of associates, this should prove to be very successful. You will be lucky in most things this week, except your emotions, and there could be slight problems in this direction. However, these will be of short duration, so do not worry too much about them.

CANCER — June 21st to July 21st

You would be very well advised to take care not to say too much as someone around you may be rather too noisy during this coming week. You must be as tactful as you can, especially where your working life is concerned. A little extra money is indicated for you, which will be very opportune regarding some future arrangements. Where your health is concerned, you may need to watch this a little.

LEO — July 22nd to August 21st

In the romantic field, you will be feeling more happily stable than for quite some time past, and affairs in this direction appear to run very smoothly for you. In the home, you may come up against a rather stubborn relative, but you should get over this. When making any arrangements this week, consult your opposite number first, or you could find that your plans will be in opposition of one another.

VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st

In the financial field, it would appear that a little more money should be coming your way very soon, not money that you have earned, but rather some windfall from an unexpected quarter. The coming week should be smooth and calm for you in most directions, with very few irritations. Few health problems, and few upsets, in fact, it could be called a snug week.

LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd

This coming week could possibly bring odd little health problems with it, not necessarily to you personally, but to those around you. There will be extra work put on you, on account of the absence of others at business. Emotionally, do not let your imagination run away with you where a newly formed romantic relationship is concerned, or you could very easily get hurt.

SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st

Where your working life is concerned, you may have to reshuffle your plans slightly during this coming week. A course which is most likely to be forced upon you because you have been taking on too much of late. Your finances appear to be improving now. A member of your family who has probably been giving you some cause for worry will come around to your way of thinking.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th

This is an extremely good week for you, and you should have some very good ideas working in your mind. You will need some co-operation in this respect, and therefore you should try not to be too independent. In this coming weekend, you should realise very clearly that you have made some very definite progress in an affair of the heart. This should be a very happy time for you.

Thursday 4 August

Birthday Greetings to You. Your past unselfishness and good nature should stand you in good stead where those who are fairly close to you are concerned, and they should now start to work for your good.

Healthwise, you should have little to grumble about throughout the coming twelve months, for all the indications are that in this direction, apart from just a little sinus bother, everything else should be 100%.

Quite an opportunity for travel should come your way, especially towards mid-November. This in turn should bring about a meeting with very good friends of long-standing, and bring in its trail quite an enjoyable time.

Friday 5 August

Birthday Greetings to You. An opportunity for you to make a rather lengthy journey could come your way around November to December period.

Financially, affairs should take a turn for the better during the next three or four months, bringing you more prosperity in an extremely surprising way. Also, you could make a very longstanding friendship as a result of travel.

Emotionally, even though you may have been going through a little puzzling time of late in this field, for you younger ones, there is a strong hint of romance which could result in marriage, whilst for the older ones, much more peace of mind is indicated.

Saturday 6 August

Birthday Greetings to You. Quite a lot of excitement could be caused by the birth of a child between October and March around your family, and this child, incidentally, should prove to be extremely talented as the years pass by. Family ties should gain in strength quite a lot during the next four months, and health should give you very little cause for worry throughout the whole of the coming twelve months.

In the financial field, you should prove to be very fortunate, always providing that you try your best to guard against too much hasty or extravagant outgoings.

There are indications that someone you have not seen for some time could bring you a good deal of luck in this direction.

4 AUGUST 1983

Birthday

Information

Charts

Monday 8 August

Birthday Greetings to You. You may find that you are having to change certain plans you had in mind because travel could come your way, but this should be all for the better for the indications are that the outcome in both the social and financial fields should be, because of this, one of improvement.

Little family bothers over the next four months become a bit pressing, but you should be able to cope with these quite easily, and the portents are that you own personal life shows every sign of brightening considerably during this coming year.

Healthwise, you would do well not to worry for you should find that between now and December, you are feeling fitter and fitter as each month goes by, always bearing in mind, of course, that you must not overdo things, or overexert yourself.

Tuesday 9 August

Birthday Greetings to You. There are extremely strong indications of much more success for you where your career is concerned this year, and you should by December time, be receiving dividends for all your past hard work.

Where your family is concerned, you may find yourself well advised to diplomatically try and pass some of the extra responsibility which a relative will try to put on your shoulders on to another member, especially to one who always seemed to try to pass the buck on to you.

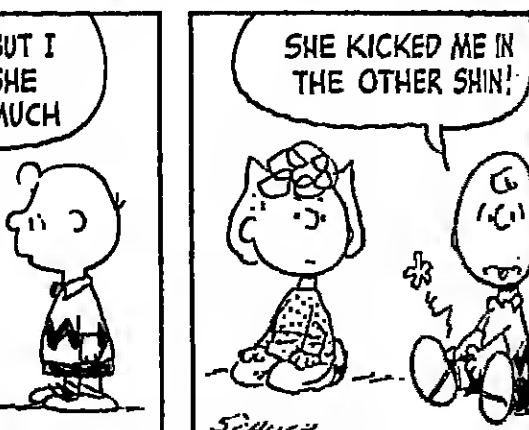
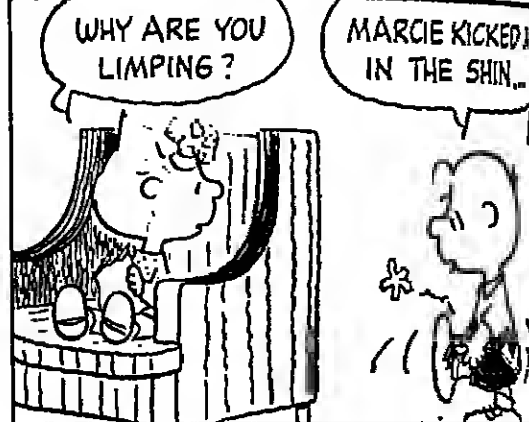
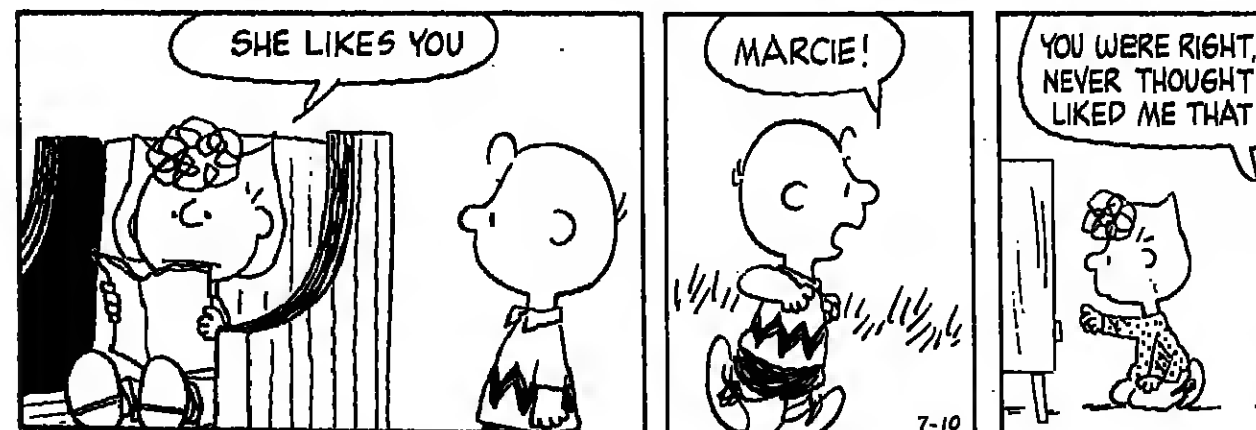
For the eligible one amongst you, December to March period is very strongly stated where romance is concerned, but try your level best not to allow yourself to be irritated by other people's jealousies.

Wednesday 10 August

Birthday Greetings to You. Last pointed that you do your best to try to curb your temper a little at times, your personal life shows every sign of improvement. Over the last year, you may have found yourself worrying a little over your health, but all the indications are that by the beginning of December, you should be feeling extremely fit, and this is an extremely good year healthwise.

Someone in a superior position could offer you advice around the winter period, which would have a great bearing on your future, and in consequence, make you feel stronger in this direction than you have felt for some time past.

Romance for the eligible is extremely well started, whilst for those of you who are married,



FRANK AND ERNEST

